

NAUGURATION

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# Late Addresses of Abraham Lincoln, 1861-1865

## First Inaugural Inauguration

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the  
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BY TELEGRAPH  
TO THE  
**BOSTON DAILY EVENING TRANSCRIPT.**

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE TRANSCRIPT.]

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S INAUGURATION.

GREAT THRONGS OF PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON.

The Capital in a State of Healthy Excitement.

GRAND MILITARY AND CIVIC DISPLAY.

PRECAUTIONS TAKEN AGAINST DISTURBANCE.

WASHINGTON, March 4—11 A. M.

The crowd of people now in this city to attend the inauguration of President Lincoln is large beyond precedent, and is constantly augmenting by arrivals from all quarters. One peculiar feature in this immense collection is the preponderating free State element. The West is strongly represented, and by men some of whom are not wont to stand much bullying.

Vice President Hamlin called upon President Lincoln this morning. On returning to his hotel Mr. Hamlin was enthusiastically cheered by the New Englanders who chanced to observe him.

The Inaugural is anxiously awaited today, as the tone of that document will have great influence upon the future of the country.

SECOND DESPATCH.

Soon after 11 o'clock, the hour appointed, the procession, which was formed in front of the City Hall, started through Louisiana Avenue to Pennsylvania Avenue, toward Willard's Hotel, where the President elect will be taken up.

The military escort is very large, and makes a magnificent display.

Squads of troops are stationed on the tops of buildings at different points along the avenues through which the procession is to pass. The meaning of this military precaution, though not publicly given, may be easily inferred.

THIRD DESPATCH.

The weather is superb for the display.

The crowd is much greater than was anticipated.

As Mr. Lincoln passed down Pennsylvania Avenue, he was loudly cheered at various points.

## THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

Washington, 4th. The day was ushered in by a most exciting session of the Senate, that body sitting for twelve hours, from seven o'clock yesterday evening to seven o'clock this morning. As the dial of the clock pointed to 12 o'clock last night and Sunday gave way to Monday, the 4th of March, the Senate Chamber presented a curious and animated appearance. The galleries were crowded to repletion, the ladies' gallery resembling from the gay dresses of the fair ones there congregated some gorgeous parterre of flowers, and the gentlemen's gallery seemed one dense black mass of surging, heaving masculines, pushing, struggling and almost clambering over each other's backs in order to get a good look at the proceedings.

Some most ludicrous scenes were the result of the intense desire of the outsiders to get a peep into the Senate Chamber, and the pertinacity with which the applicant for admission to the overflowing galleries would urge that he had come all the way from "Indiana or Varmount," or some other place, afforded the seated ones intense amusement.

On the floor, Messrs. Crittenden, Trumbull, Wigfall, Wade, Douglas and others kept up a rolling fire of debate, while those not engaged in the discussion betook themselves to the sofas for a comfortable nap during the session, which it was known would last all night. As the morning advanced, the galleries and floor became gradually cleared out, when in the grey morning light the Senate took a recess till 10 o'clock today. A few minutes after 8 o'clock but few remained.

The morning broke clear and beautiful, and though at one time a few drops of rain fell, the day proved just calm and cloudy enough to prevent the unusual heat of the past few days, and the whirlwind of dust that would otherwise render it excessively unpleasant.

The public buildings, schools, places of business, &c., were closed throughout the day. The stars and stripes floated from the City Hall, Capitol, War Department, and other public buildings, while not a few of the citizens flung out flags from their houses, or across the principal avenues. From early dawn the drum and fife could be heard in every quarter of the city, and the streets were thronged with the volunteer soldiery, hastening to their respective rendezvous.

Three or four hours elapsed before there was the least chance of entering the Capitol. Pennsylvania Avenue was thronged with people wending their way to the famous east front. For four hours the crowd poured on in one continuous stream of old and young, male and female—staid old Quakers from Pennsylvania going to see friend Abraham; and lengthy Suekers, Hoosiers and Wolverines, desirous of a peep at Mr. Lincoln; Buckeyes and Yankees, men from California and Oregon, from the Northeast and the Northwest, and a few from the Border States. The large majority, however, were Northern men, there being apparently but few Southerners.

The order of arrangements, as settled by the committee, was as follows: To the left of the Vice President were the Committee of Arrangements, immediately behind them the heads of the various Departments of the Government, Senators, members and members-elect of the House of Representatives, Officers of the Army and Navy, Governors of the States and Territories, Comptrollers, Auditors, Registers and Solicitors of the Treasury. To the right of the Vice-President were the Judges of the Supreme Court, Senators, Diplomatic Corps, ex-Governors of States, Assistant Secretaries of Departments, Assistant Postmaster-General, Assistant Treasurer, Commissioners, Judges and Mayors of Georgetown and Washington.

Previous to the arrival of the procession the Senate chamber did not present a very animated appearance. The many ladies waiting to see the display did not arrive until late, and the officers, whose gay uniforms and flashing epaulettes relieved so well the sombreness of the national black, were with the Presidential cortege during the passing of the procession to Willard's Hotel, and thence thence to the Capitol.

Senator Bright killed in the most approved manner a certain gas bid, to wit, "by talking it to death." This not proving very interesting, matters waxed somewhat dull in the interim.

At five minutes to twelve o'clock, Vice-President Breckinridge and Senator Foot, of the Committee of Arrangements, entered the Senate chamber, escorting the Vice-President elect, Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, whom they conducted to a seat immediately to the left of the chair of the President of the Senate.

As the hands of the clock pointed to the hour of twelve, the hammer fell, and the second session of the thirty-sixth Congress came to an end.

Mr. Breckinridge announced the Senate adjourned without day, and left the chair, to which he immediately conducted Vice-President Hamlin. Hon. Mr. Clingman was then sworn in as Senator from North Carolina; Messrs. Clark for New Hampshire, Chase for Ohio, Harris for New York, Harlan for Iowa, Howe for Wisconsin, Breckinridge for Kentucky, Lane for Indiana, Nesmith for Oregon, and Mitchel for Arkansas. At this juncture the members and members-elect of the House of Representatives entered the Senate Chamber, filling every available place to the left of the Vice President.

The foreign diplomatic corps also entered the chamber at the same moment, occupying seats to the right of the chair. It was a subject of general remark that the foreign corps never were so fully represented as on this occasion.

The ministers, attachés, and others, numbered in all above fifty, and their brilliancy of dress, the number of their decorations, erapes, &c., added much to the imposing nature of the scene.

Some of the court uniforms were particularly gorgeous, and attracted much attention.

The scene in the Senate, while waiting the arrival of the presidential party, seemed to realize the "tying down of the lamb and the lion together," or the mingling of oil and water. Messrs. Chase, Wigfall, Crittenden, Wilson, and others, were opposite, hobnobbing with the utmost cordiality. Senator Breckinridge was conversing familiarly with the extremist men of the Republicans; while ladies of all political affinities, Mrs. Hainlin among them, looked smilingly down upon the animated scene. The attendance of Senators was unusually full, the only absences noticed being those of Messrs. Mason and Hunter of Virginia.

At fifteen minutes to one o'clock the Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States were announced by the doorkeeper of the Senate. On their entrance all on the floor arose, and the venerable Judges, headed by Chief Justice Taney, moved slowly to the seats assigned them, immediately to the right of the Vice-President, each exchanging salutes with that officer in passing the chair.

At ten minutes after one o'clock an unusual stir occurred in the chamber, and the rumor spread like wild-fire that the President elect was in the building; at fifteen minutes past one o'clock the marshal and chief, Major B. B. French, entered the chamber, ushering in the President and the President elect. They had entered together from the street through a private covered passage-way on the north side of the Capitol, police officers being in attendance to prevent outsiders from crowding after them.

The line of procession was then formed in the following order: Marshal of the District of Columbia, Judges of Supreme Court and Sergeant-at-Arms, Senate Committee of Arrangements, President of the United States and President-elect, Vice President, Secretary of the Senate, Senators, Diplomatic Corps, Heads of the Departments, Governors and others in the chambers.

When the word was given for members of the House to fall into the line of procession, a violent rush was made for the door, accompanied by loud outcries, violent pushing and great disturbance.

After the procession had reached the platform, Senator Baker of Oregon introduced Mr. Lincoln to the assembly. On Mr. Lincoln's advancing to the stand he was cheered, but not very loudly. Unfolding his manuscript, in a loud, clear voice he read his message.

We published the inaugural address in an extra yesterday afternoon, and now reprint it in full, and corrected, on our fourth page.]

During the delivery of the inaugural, which began at half-past one o'clock, Mr. Lincoln was much cheered, especially at any allusion to the Union.

President Buchanan and Chief Justice Taney listened with utmost attention to every word of the address, and at its conclusion the latter administered the usual oath, in answering to which Mr. Lincoln was vociferously cheered. The Chief Justice seemed to be very much agitated, and his hands shook very perceptibly with emotion.

The inauguration of today makes the eighth ceremony of the kind at which Chief Justice Taney has officiated, having administered the oath of office successively to Presidents Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan and Lincoln. The ceremony was exceedingly impressive.

At the conclusion of the inauguration ceremonies, the President was escorted to the Senate Chamber, thence to his carriage, and the military forming as in the procession of this morning, accompanied him with the committee of arrangements to the White House.

On reaching the Executive mansion the troops formed in double line on Maine avenue, and the brougham containing the Presidential party, passed through to the White House. Mr. Buchanan accompanied Mr. Lincoln to the main hall, and there took a farewell leave of him, expressing a hope in cordial terms that his administration might prove a happy and prosperous one. The Ex-President then retired to the residence of District Attorney Ould.

On the arrival of the procession at the White House the marshals were successfully introduced to Mr. Lincoln, and then, the line being formed, the people rushed in to congratulate the new President. The rush was exceedingly great. Thus ended for the daytime the inauguration ceremonies.

Though the enthusiasm did not equal that manifested on former occasions, everything passed off quietly. The amplest civil and military preparations were made by the municipal authorities and General Scott, to provide for any emergency that might arise. The various bodies of United States troops now here were stationed in different parts of the city, the Sappers and Miners alone being in the procession. Gen. Scott, it is said, was near the Capitol, with Capt. Barry's company of light artillery, and Major Harkin's command, acting as infantry. Officers reported continually, passing to and fro, and it is said the General was heard to exclaim, "Everything is going on peacefully; *Thank God Almighty for it!*" During the day military patrols were on duty all over the city, and the greatest vigilance was enjoined upon and observed by the regulars.

The display of soldiery in the procession was very fine, but not equal to that of the 2d of February. The companies were quite numerous, but of small size. As a rule the Republican associations were placed in the order of march immediately after the Ex-Presidents. These organizations had with them a sort of triumphal car drawn by four white horses, each of which was covered with white cloth, on which was the word "Union" in large letters on one side and the word "Constitution" on the other. The car was decorated with miniature flags, and white, red and blue drapery, and contained thirty-four little girls, representing the States, and two young ladies respectively representing the North and the South. The whole affair was under the charge of ten Wide Awakes in full uniform. Five hundred delegates from New York marched in the procession, four abreast. Several other large delegations also joined the line.

The scene from the east front was very fine. The avenue in front of the portico was thronged with people, the crowd extending a great distance on either side and reaching far into the Capitol grounds. Every available spot was black with human beings; boys and men clinging to rails, and mounting on fences, and climbing trees until they bent beneath their weight. On the outer edge of the concourse the volunteer soldiery stood at rest during the delivery of the inaugural. A great number of flags were flying, and as the sun shone brightly on the gay dresses of the ladies, and the uniforms and glittering weapons of the soldiers, the scene was exceedingly animated. Several photographers were on the ground, taking impressions of the scene.

*Recd. from Wm. T. H. March 6, 1861*

THE INAUGURATION BALL AT WASHINGTON.

A letter descriptive of this interesting fete, says:

The room is very tastefully decorated with shields and flags, and is brilliantly lighted with gas. Dancing commenced precisely at 10 o'clock, at which hour the President had not arrived. Robert Lincoln came in with Miss Campbell of Galena, Ill., accompanied by Col. Lemon, Col. Ellsworth, Lott Todd and Private Secretary Hays. The room is pleasantly filled, and toilettes of ladies are noticeable, with but few exceptions, for elegance and good taste. Capt. Comstock, Capt. Woodhull of the United States Navy, J. Watson Webb, Abraham Wakeman, James Humphrey, wife and daughter; Gen. Serrells and wife, and Mrs. Chancellor Walworth, are among the prominent New Yorkers present. Mrs. Drake Mills is gorgeously attired in two thousand dollars' worth of laces of twenty thousand dollars' worth of diamonds.

The army is well represented. Lord Lyons and other diplomats, in plain dress, are present. Senator Harris and lady, Marshall O. Roberts, Edward Fiske and Charles Sedgwick of New York are also here. Mrs. Casson of Iowa presented Mr. Seward with an elegant, but chaste bouquet, which was the envy of the Senator's *confreres*.

Mr. Seward entered the room with his daughter-in-law. A queerly dressed man, with a long shepherd's crook, is on the floor, endeavoring to find Mr. Seward. At 10½ o'clock the Presidential party came in. Senator Anthony and Vice-President Hamlin supported the President. Senator Douglas escorted Mrs. Lincoln, Senator Baker Mrs. Hamlin, Governor Yates Mrs. Baker, and Dr. Baloch Miss Edwards. The band struck up "Hail Columbia," and the party marched from one end of the hall to the other, amid inspiring strains of the national air, causing an era of tremendous good feeling.

After a brief promenade, the President, with Mrs. Hamlin, took stations at the upper end of the room, and a large number of persons availed themselves of the opportunity of being presented to Mr. Lincoln, who shook hands with everybody. At 11½ o'clock the President and suite went into the supper room, in the same order as they entered the hall. At 12½ o'clock the quadrille of the evening was danced—Douglas and Mrs. Lincoln, Hamlin and Miss Edwards, Mayor Berret and Mrs. Bergman, Mr. Harrard and Mrs. Baker composing the set. Miss Edwards, niece of Mrs. Lincoln, is acknowledged to be the belle of the evening. The ladies of the Presidential party are dressed exquisitely, and in perfect taste.

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## THE INAUGURATION.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN was duly inaugurated at Washington on 4th March. We devote a large portion of our space in this number to the illustration of this important event. On pages 168 and 169 will be found a large view of the INAUGURATION CEREMONY; on page 161 a picture of the INAUGURAL PROCESSION; and on this page an engraving depicting the ENTRANCE OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS INTO THE SENATE CHAMBER.

The procession began to form about nine o'clock on Pennsylvania Avenue. The centre of attraction was Willard's Hotel, where Mr. Lincoln was staying, and by 10 A.M. the Avenue at that point was blocked up. The day was fine and every body was in the street. Over twenty-five thousand strangers were in the city, many of whom had slept the night previous in the Capitol and in the streets—it being absolutely impossible to find rooms or beds any where.

According to custom, the Inaugural ceremonies should have begun at noon. But at that hour Mr. Buchanan was still in his chamber at the Capitol signing bills. It was not till ten minutes past twelve that he left the Capitol. He drove rapidly to the White House, entered an open barouche with servants in livery, and proceeded to Willard's. There the President-elect, and Senators Pearce and Baker of the Committee of Arrangements, entered the carriage, and a few minutes before one the procession began to move. The order of procession was as follows :

Aids. . Marshal-in-Chief. Aids.  
A National Flag with appropriate emblems.  
The President of the United States, with the President-Elect and Suite, with Marshals on their left, and the  
Marshal of the United States for the District of Columbia (Colonel William Selden) and his Deputies on their right.  
The Committee of Arrangements of the Senate.  
Ex-Presidents of the United States.  
The Republican Association.  
The Judiciary.  
The Clergy.  
Foreign Ministers.  
The Corps Diplomatique.  
Members-elect, Members and ex-Members of Congress, and ex-Members of the Cabinet.  
The Peace Congress.  
Heads of Bureaus.  
Governors and ex-Governors of States and Territories, and Members of the Legislatures of the same.

Officers of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Militia, in full uniform.

Officers and Soldiers of the Revolution, of the War of 1812, and subsequent periods.

The Corporate Authorities of Washington and Georgetown.

Other Political and Military Associations from the District and other parts of the United States.

All organized Civil Societies.  
Professors, Schoolmasters, and Students within the District of Columbia; Citizens of the District, and of States and Territories.

The arrangements, as a rule, were bad, the throng pressing upon the Presidential carriage so as to compel it to stop frequently. But the sight was very brilliant, and the crowd enormous. A striking feature of the procession was a van labeled Constitution, upon which thirty-four young girls in white were seated. Our artist has selected for his picture the moment at which the procession passed the gate of the Capitol grounds.

Arriving at the private door leading, through a covered way, to the Capitol, the carriage stopped and the two Presidents alighted. It was about half past one when they entered the Senate arm-in-arm, as shown in our picture. A newspaper correspondent says :

"Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Lincoln entered, arm-in-arm, the former pale, sad, nervous; the latter's face slightly flushed, with compressed lips. For a few minutes, while the oath was administered to Senator Pearce, they sat in front of the President's desk. Mr. Buchanan sighed audibly, and frequently. Mr. Lincoln was grave and impassive as an Indian martyr."

After a few moments of rest, the procession formed again and proceeded to the platform on the portico of the Capitol. There, the Supreme Court, the Senate, House of Representatives, Foreign Ministers, and a vast crowd of privileged persons quickly filled every seat: while the people—to the number of some 25,000—were gathered in a dense mass below. President Lincoln was introduced to the people by Senator Baker, of Oregon, and forthwith, in a clear, strong voice, proceeded to read his inaugural, which was frequently interrupted by bursts of applause.

At the close of the reading the oath was administered by Chief Justice Taney; and after receiving the congratulations of his friends, the President, leaning on the arm of President Buchanan, retired within the building, and thence drove to the White House.

*H. L. 3-16-61*



## CHAPTER XXIV.

[WRITTEN BY JOSEPH HOWARD, JR.]

## PART IV.

AN INTERESTING AND EXCITING PERIOD  
FROM NOVEMBER TO MARCH.

Bat Buchanan's successor, although elected, was not yet inaugurated.

Months stretched out between the 6th of November 1860 and the 4th of March 1861, months pregnant with trouble, with national disturbance, with an unsotlement of confidence that made itself felt in the veins of the entire body politic. Commerce has always been timid, capital was never yet aggressive, and the bold defiant attitude of the avowed secession element in the South struck terror to the hearts of men of means, more especially to those who dealt with the slave-holding States.

The South had been a rich field for Northern cupidity.

Her cotton, her sugar were treasures eagerly sought for, and greatly desired by the marts of the world. Easy-going and reckless spendthrifts from birth, the slave-owners believed largely in credit. They bought on credit, they discounted their income from future crops, they lived in luxury and in lazy ease, owning, strange as it may seem in this period of the world's civilization, men and women, many of them as white as themselves, many of them their own flesh and blood, and all of them chattels in the eye of the law, and in the eve of the Christian church. From these easy-going men of affluence in the South, the ninty hearted men of the North reaped rich harvests, year in and year out. With saucious cunning at the helm, they so steered affairs as to keep the South in perpetual bondage of debt, a debt continually rolling and accumulating, so that from its interest alone vast profits were made. For a quarter of a century the professional politician and state-men of the South had rolled the threat of secession and a separate oligarchy in the South as a sweet morsel under the tongue of oratory. They had boldly proclaimed it from the platform, from the stump, in the very halls of national legislation, until it had become, as it were, a maxim, "the South first, the Union last." Before this element which, as I said before, I believe to have been a very small proportion of the Southerner people, but a very influential portion all the same, the merchants of the North cringed and cowed because their craft was in danger. The continuous threat of Southern men was, "If you don't do as we say, we will leave the Union."

Party feeling, too, ran high throughout the nation.

There was not much discussion at the South, for there the orators were all on one side, and the people listened; but in the North ideas clashed furiously, the abolitionists with their extreme ideas, the merchants timid and vacillating the Republicans hardly knowing where they stood, many of them tamely submitting to the charge that they by daring to vote for and elect their candidate had done much to precipitate the nation into the boiling caldron of disunion, and the blatant sympathizers with the disunion movement combined to make the entire Northern section a miniature hades.

The South had witnessed many scenes of violence.

But so had the North.

Boston had its share, as the friends of Governor Andrew and Wendell Phillips and William Lloyd Garrison and Theodore Parker can abundantly testify. The annual meeting of the New England anti-slavery society, which was held in Tremont Temple in February, 1861, was broken up by groans and stampings and cries which the police were powerless to prevent, because they had been ordered by the mayor to make no arrests until an overt act had been committed. Governor Andrew had no authority to order out the troops, even when requested, unless that request came from the mayor, who declined to make it, and the State had no control over the police. This, I am told led to the establishment of the State constabulary in Massachusetts.

Toward one man all eyes turned.

Abraham Lincoln in the gloominess of

his Illinois home, was the hinge on which mighty events were turning.

Wise men, moderate men, wild men studied him and regarded him with earnest desire to thoroughly understand his character, his nature and his tendencies. Would he in the mighty conflict of ideas, not then advanced to the point of fighting armos, prove a judicious counsellor to the excited, a shield between offenders, a barrier against encroachments, or would he be a tantalizing, nervous, fitful, vacillating creature, in the hands of affairs, made hot by opposition and furious by assault? Critical as were many individual hours in the five succeeding years, it may be doubted if there has at any period of the nation's progress been such a momentous crisis as that covered by the time intervening from Nov. 6, 1860, to March 4, 1861.

Buchanan's cabinet was in turmoil.

It became necessary for man after man to be dropped. The old gentleman himself, honest enough, but hesitant, timid in the face of affairs, reluctant, possibly to initiate a policy which might embarrass his successor, did nothing to stem the tide of rabid secession and turbulent disunion. Preparations as we now see for war, if war became a necessity, were made throughout the South. With or without the understanding of the President, the forts, the arsenals, the military posts were so arranged as to fall readily, later on, into the hands of men who turned the guns against the country's flag.

Especially significant were the movements in Charleston harbor. South Carolina passed her ordinance of secession, Dec. 20, 1860. The harbor of Charleston was held and defended by four United States forts, namely, Castle Pinckney, Fort Moultrie, Fort Sumter and Fort Johnson. The commandant of the harbor, Major Robert Anderson, who had been appointed to that post of duty in the preceding October, again and again warned Secretary of War Floyd of the threatening attitude of the South Carolinians and of the danger that, unless strengthened, the United States forts and arsenals would be seized by them. But Floyd was deaf to all those representations. He would not send Anderson any additional men, or guns or supplies. In this predicament the loyal and gallant Anderson perceived that he could not hope to defend all the forts with the slender force at his disposal and he therefore decided to throw it all into Fort Sumter and hold that at all costs. Accordingly on the night of the 26th of December, 1860, he shifted his headquarters from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter, conveying his troops over in boats by moonlight.

It was deemed wise that Mr. Lincoln should be in Washington some time before the day of inauguration.

Preparations for the trip were therefore in order in the early part of February, 1861. Familiar as every person in Springfield was with his quaint personality, and intimate as a large majority of them were with his individuality, he had been heard to utter not one word concerning the condition of affairs since the day of his election. He had made no sign while indeed commerce was in darkness, trade was dead, State after State had gone through the farce of leaving the Union, the entire country borne to the very ground, sitting as it were in the dust of trouble and wonder.

The one man to whom every eye turned uttered not one word.

Thousands gathered about the depot to see him off, but all he said to them was in homely phrase: "No one not in my position can appreciate the sadness I feel at this parting. To this people I owe all that I am. A duty devolves upon me which is greater perhaps, than that which has devolved upon any other man since the days of Washington. He never would have succeeded except for a hand of Divine Providence, upon which he at all times relied. Feeling that I cannot succeed, without the same divine aid which sustained him, in the same Almighty Being I place my reliance for support." In Indianapolis, where, as at all significant points between Springfield and New York, and thence on to Washington, Mr. Lincoln was well

upon for remarks, he made use of expressions for the first time which excited considerable alarm and very general criticism. Looked at from today no man with unobscured reason can find fault with them. Let us see. "What then?" said he, "is coercion? What is invasion? Would the marching of an army into South Carolina without the consent of her people and with hostile intent toward them be invasion? I certainly think it would be invasion if South Carolinians were forced to admit them. But if the United States should merely hold and retake her own forts and other property and collect the duties on foreign importations, or even withhold the mails from places where they were habitually violated, would any or all these things be invasion or coercion?" He was about to take an oath to support the Constitution of the United States, in which his duties are clearly specified, and it would seem that in this speech he had with notable clearness defined those duties.

"What else?"

In another place he said, "There is no crisis except such a one as may be gotten up at any time by turbulent men aided by designing politicians. My advice to them under the circumstances is to keep cool." And again in another place he said, "There need be no blood shed or war. There is no necessity for it. I am not in favor of such a course, and I may say and in advance, that there will be no blood shed unless it be forced upon the government, and then it will be forced to act in self-defence." The wonderful good sense of this great man was thoroughly illustrated in a speech he made in Columbus, O., where in response to criticism for silence in view of the disquietude of the country he said, "I have not maintained silence from any want of real anxiety. It is a good thing that there is no more than anxiety, for there is nothing going wrong. It is a consoling circumstance that when we look at it there is nothing that really hurts anybody. This is a most consoling circumstance, and from it I judge that all we want is time and patience, and a reliance on the God that has never forsaken His people. In the varying and repeatedly shifting scenes of the present, without a precedent which could enable me to judge for the best, it has seemed fitting that before speaking upon the difficulties of the country, I should gain a view of the whole field."

On his arrival in New York the president-elect was welcomed by a most imposing demonstration with at least a half million people on the streets cheering and hurrahing, while flags waved and cannons boomed from end to end of Manhattan Island. Fernando Wood was mayor of the city, and in welcoming the distinguished guest that why politician took occasion to rehearse somewhat briefly the condition of affairs, and to outline the tremendous responsibilities resting upon him, so soon about to assume the exalted powers of the presidency. He alluded to the necessity of reconstructing a dismembered government and of reconciling a disconnected and hostile people. He showed that the State of New York was sorely grieved, her material interests paralyzed, her commercial centre in danger, and called upon Mr. Lincoln, as the one chosen by the people, to restore the fraternal relations between the States, an end, according to Mayor Wood, only to be accomplished by "peaceful and conciliatory means." Mr. Lincoln's reply was a mode of avoidance, and in closing he said: "There is nothing that could ever bring me willingly to consent to the destruction of this Union, except it be for the purpose for which the Union itself was formed. I understand the ship to be made for the carrying and the preservation of the cargo, and so long as the ship can be saved with the cargo, it should never be abandoned. Unless it fails, the

possibility of its preservation shall cease to exist, except at the risk of throwing overboard both freight and passengers." In Trenton, in the presence of the legislature, he said, "I shall do all that may be in my power to promote a peaceful settlement of all my difficulties. The man does not live who is more devoted to peace than I am, none who would do more to serve it, but it may be necessary to put the foot down firmly, and if I do my duty and do right you will sustain me, will you not? I trust I may have your assistance in piloting the ship of state through this voyage, surrounded by perils as it is, for if it should suffer shipwreck now there will be no pilot ever needed for another voyage!"

Circumstances alter cases.

And proximity to the scene of his extended labor altered materially circumstances, and to a certain extent it will be noticed his utterances at first would show that he anticipated no difficulty, that good will, kind treatment, assurance of cordial respect, conciliatory phrase could not overcome; but later—as will be seen by reference to these brief extracts, he alludes to the possible necessity of throwing overboard cargo and passengers to save the ship, to put down the foot firmly that obedience may be enforced, and ultimately saying, most significant words, too, that if shipwreck is encountered now there will be no need for pilot hereafter—he began to recognize the frightful possibilities.

History is curiously constructed.

The route to Washington, as laid down by the managers of the trip, took Mr. Lincoln from New York to Philadelphia, thence to Harrisburg, and thence, by way of Baltimore to Washington, a route which was materially altered so far as the chief participant was concerned. It is narrated in all cyclopedias and histories that Mr. Lincoln, having reached Harrisburg, where as at all other places a magnificent demonstration greeted him, apprehending difficulty, disguised himself in a Scotch cap and long military coat, and secretly proceeded to Washington in a regular train, leaving his wife, children and friends to make the trip on the following morning, when they, and not he, would encounter whatever difficulty was dread'd other in Baltimore or between Harrisburg and Baltimore.

Nothing is more absurd.

The facts are as follows:

It had been intimated through police sources that different of some embarrassing and possibly dangerous nature would be encountered by the speaker in the following day between Harrisburg and Baltimore. It was also known that sundry Republican clubs in Baltimore intended to make the arrival of the president-elect a pretext for vociferous demonstration. It was believed, weeks before this, that the malcontents in Washington would be joined by rowdyish combinations from Baltimore to prevent, if possible, and at all events to make very awkward and troublesome, the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln, and the mayor of Washington wrote to the marshal in Baltimore on the subject. Marshal Caine responded that in his judgment those rumors were wholly without foundation, and added, "the president-elect will need no armed escort in passing through or sojourning within the limits of Baltimore, and in my view the provision of any such, at this time, would be ill-judged." In spite of this, it was deemed best that all possibility of physical harm to Mr. Lincoln should be obviated, that all opportunity for demonstration in Baltimore should be avoided, and that as the ultimate arrival in safety in Washington was the great desideratum, the original plan should be abandoned, and that Mr. Lincoln should quietly take a regular train that night and go straight on to the capital.

That he did,

His departure was kept a secret from every one except those immediately connected with him until long after he was gone. An army of correspondents had accompanied the party, and among them a representative of the New York Times, who telegraphed daily the incidents of the progress. That night, while sitting in his room preparing his despatch, Detective Burns entered and quietly informed him that he was a prisoner, to the extent that he must not leave his room until the following morning. He snuffed his pill, however, by saying that the president-elect had gone on to Washington, and that no effort on the part of the correspondent to send a report of that fact could be successful, as the wires were cut and would not be renewed until the following morning. Accepting the situation, and desiring to make all he could in the way of picturesque sensation of the incident, which in itself was rather startling, he wrote a despatch which was wired to the New York Times the following morning, in which he said, "Abraham Lincoln, president-elect of the United States, is safe in the city of Washington," and went on to describe the perils anticipated and the dangers threatened, which led up to the sudden hasty departure, giving a romantic coloring to it all by assuming that Mr. Lincoln went in disguise, utilising for that purpose a "Scotch cap and Colonel Summer's long military coat." The despatch reached the office of the paper early on the following morning, and was immediately issued in an extra, of which 60,000 copies were sold before noon. The departure was prosaic, sensible and in line with everything Lincoln did. It was a sagacious move, and not undertaken in any way by clay-trap of any kind.

Naturally desirous of placing themselves right before the community and the people at large, the mayor and council of Washington tendered to Mr. Lincoln a reception, which in a very neatly phrased and significant reply he declined. On the following night a serenade, given him by the Republican associations, afforded him an opportunity to say to the multitude that assembled that he thought much of the ill-feeling that existed between them and the people from whom he came depended upon a misunderstanding, and he believed that he had it in his power to remove something of that misunderstanding, and hoped to be able to convince them and all the people of that section of the country that neither he nor those who elected him were in any way disposed, even if it were in their power, to oppress them, to deprive them of any of their rights under the Constitution of the United States or even narrowly to split hairs with them in regard to those rights.

It would be difficult to conceive a more considerate course than that pursued by Mr. Lincoln from beginning to end.

That he did not appreciate the gravity of the situation was not surprising. Who did? Who of all the great thinkers and writers of the time believed that a five-year's war, costing billions of dollars and a million of lives was on the eve of birth? Who did not agree with the Lincolnian idea that mutual forbearance and common courtesy and a desire for unity would, in a few short weeks, restore the old-time comradery?

It was quite sufficient for him to face the three problems of fact. First, the political situation North and South. The North divided, the South united, and, so far as formal organization was concerned, a Confederacy hostile to the Union in absolute existence, for it will be remembered that in conformity to resolutions passed in the Legislature of Mississippi Jan. 19, 1861, a Confederate Congress assembled in Montgomery, in which members participated from South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Florida, and two weeks thereafter

members from Texas participated in the deliberations. Second, the commercial aspect of affairs precluded, business paralyzed, commerce quieted. And third, his personal embarrassment as Abraham Lincoln, a private citizen, upon whose shoulders the burden could not really rest until after his inauguration, but nevertheless compelled, to all intents and purposes, to be the bulwark against which the turbulent waves of universal dissension, apprehension, wonder, were dashing with unaccustomed tumult and embarrassing proportions.

Nor was President Buchanan's position enviable.

He had been called to account by the House of Representatives, who demanded of him formally the reasons that caused him to assemble so large a number of troops in Washington, and why they were kept there, and whether he had any information of a conspiracy on the part of anybody to prevent the inauguration of the president-elect. Mr. Buchanan sat upon the House of Representatives with a vigor and firmness which entitled him to the gratitude of the nation. He replied to the resolution of the 11th of February on the 1st of March that the number of troops in Washington was 653, exclusive of marines who were at the navy yard, and that these troops had been ordered to Washington to act in strict obedience to the civil authority, to preserve peace and order in Washington before, at or after the inauguration of the president-elect. It had occurred to him that it was hardly worth while to wait until the public property was seized, the archives of the government destroyed, and the peace and order of the national capital interfered with. Man after man had left his cabinet to go, each with his State, as far out of the Union as he could get, as far into the Confederacy as he could push. These places had been filled by patriotic men, who were, nevertheless, greatly embarrassed to know what to do, especially as the House of Representatives had arrogated to itself a intimacy of criticism, annoying and galling under any circumstances, and particularly

sensitive at this time. It was also a peculiarly exacting time for the local authorities who, from the 1st of February, 1861, had apprehended possible trouble—so altogether the lot of the national capital and the distinguished gentlemen then occupying responsible positions was very far from being a happy one.

The week prior to inauguration day was anxious, sleepless, disturbed, apprehensive.

The outgoing administration were about to leave affairs at loose ends, the incoming administration was to be embarrassed at the very threshold by the immediate necessity of gathering together the reins, widely separated, and that, too, at a time when every steed was restive and the road rugged, if not, indeed, impassable.

Grave and serious?

Naturally.

A great-hearted, honest-minded, clear-eyed man, taken by the strong hand of popular will from the calm retirement of his Western circuit, and placed on the very pinnacle of affairs, a target for every eye, possibly a mark for every bullet—such was Abraham Lincoln on the night of March 3, 1861.

## PART V.

The night preceding the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln was a most anxious, restless period.

No special alarm as to absolute popular disturbance existed, and no apprehension whatever was felt as to any possible interruption of the inauguration by a mob, because ample precautions were taken by the military as well as the civil authorities. The hotels were crowded to suffocation. Every boarding-house, all private dwellings were filled with guests. Every journal in the country was represented. The government was to be turned over to Republican administrators by the Democratic hands which had controlled it for a half-century. To the representatives of foreign powers it was the closing of one epoch, the beginning of another.

American eyes saw in it a crisis.

Buchanan and his friends were about to retire in gloom. Lincoln and his were about to enter upon grave responsibilities in darkness and in cloud. The country is now so familiarized with military names, titles, specialties, and understands so completely military terms, differences in rank, insignia and appurtenances of the camp, that it can with difficulty only picture to itself the utter lack of formality, of etiquette, that obtained in that time.

For instance, it was very well known that Mr. Seward of New York was to be secretary of state in the new administration. The chief of the cabinet is a very high official, yet it struck no one as odd or strange to see him promenading the corridors of Willard's Hotel with his arm thrown around the shapely shoulders of young Ellsworth, the ideal colonel of the fire laddies' regiment, laughing and chatting with each other, until brought face to face with the herculean proportions of Winfield Scott, lieutenant-general of the army, forming a group picturesque and interesting then, but famous, as looked at through the lens of history. President Buchanan treated Mr. Lincoln with characteristic courtesy. He was born a gentleman. The habits of his life polished a nature naturally sly and courteous, and, although mentally oppressed, and doubtless grieved to the very core of his heart at the condition in which he was forced to leave the country, he bore himself with quiet dignity, and manifested almost fraternal interest in the introduction of his successor to his elevated post, ere he began his arduous task.

The 4th of March, 1861, memorable in all time as the initial day of Republican rule, opened with its sunrise gun, bright and cheery, but with a charge of electric excitement, the more oppressive because of its breathless quiet. The military were up. Thousands of well drilled militia, with cavalry, infantry and artillery, attracting multitudes about their several rendezvous. The inauguration ceremonies were announced for 1 o'clock. Hours before that there were massed in front of the House of Representatives scores of thousands of anxious men, the vast black multitude enlivened here and there with feminine apparel and the smiles of beauty. A platform had been erected over the main steps of the east front of the Capitol, in the immediate centre of which was a kind of shelter to protect the president from the sun or rain, as the heavens might vouchsafe, for the time being. On the platform were benches and chairs for distinguished guests. The preliminary ceremonies were held in the Senate Chamber, which was, by noon, filled to overflowing. The judges of the Supreme Court, clad in their silken garments, members of the outgoing and incoming cabinets, members of the United States Senate, the diplomatic corps in their gaudy attire, and other privileged persons, occupied seats upon the floor, while the galleries were packed with ladies. The correspondents of the press occupied a little gallery immediately over the desk of the president of the Senate. Into this notable gathering came James Buchanan and Abraham Lincoln, attended by Senators Foote, Baker

and Pearce. Hannibal Hamlin took the oath of office as vice president, assumed his chair as presiding officer of the Senate, administered the oath to newly-elected Senators, and then directed the forming of a procession to the platform, where the presidential inauguration was to be had.

A notable group.

The sea's upon the platform were filled by those to whom they had been assigned, and a cheer from 50,000 lusty throats went up as a trio of mental, moral and physical worth approached the temporary shelter in the immediate centre. Venerable indeed was the chief justice, Robert B. Taney. What thoughts must have passed through his well-disciplined mind. How, with the eye of a historian, he must have run back more than 60 years to the date of his first oath of office, and, coming down the strain of time, how significant must have seemed his triumphant outgoing through local, State and governmental office, until his appointment by Andrew Jackson in 1836, as chief justice of the United States, a fit successor to the great Marshall, then dead. How, as looking, during a few moments' delay, from his elevation upon the vast crowd before him, in which thousands of dusky faces, free and enslaved as well appeared, must have risen before him his famous Dred Scott decision, in which he declared negroes as beings of an "inferior order," altogether unfit to associate with the white race, through any social or political relations, and so far inferior that they had "no rights which the white man was bound to respect." And then, as looking at the courtly form and personal dignity of Buchanan on his left, and the earnest solemnity stamped on the face of the tall newcomer upon his right, must have risen before him the long line of men to whom he had administered the oath, now about to be taken by Abraham Lincoln. It was indeed a significant moment to Robert B. Taney, and he indeed was a fit complement to the two distinguished factors in affairs with whom he appeared, part and parcel of an illustrious trio.

The oath being administered, President Lincoln stepped to the front.

What a transformation in a second of time!

A moment before, Buchanan, chief officer of this mighty nation; now Lincoln, chief officer of this mighty nation. Then in the hand of Buchanan rested the power of life and death; now as a private citizen as powerless, as devoid of influence, as untitle as any in the vast crowd below. A moment ago a president-elect with hope and anticipation and desire, but no whit of power, now the arbiter of fate, the decider of momentous issues, with liberty to say live with power to say die; admirable illustration of republican simplicity, significant portrait of our democracy. The will of the people kept Buchanan in power until that second, the will of the people put Abraham Lincoln in power from that second.

Great interest was naturally felt in Lincoln's inaugural address.

Horace Greeley says of Lincoln: "His faith in reason as a moral force was so implicit, that he did not cherish a doubt that his inaugural address, wherein he had bestowed much thought and labor, would, when read through the South, dissolve the Confederacy, as the frost is dissolved by a vernal sun. I sat just behind him as he read it, on a bright, warm, still March day, expecting to hear the delivery arrested by the crack of a rifle aimed at his heart, but it pleased God to nosing the dead, although there was 40 times the opportunity to shoot him in 1861 than there was in 1865, and at least 40 times as many intent on killing or having him killed."

But Greeley then, as often, was mistaken. There was no bullet fired. Lincoln's address, although read, produced a profound impression. It was heard with perfect distinctness by at least 10,000, if not 15,000 of people assembled, and its affectionate interest and peaceful tendency affected very markedly the mind of the Northern public, producing, however, not one iota of effect south of Mason and Dixon's line. He treated all the secession acts as a farce, insisted upon the perpetuity and inviolability

of the Union, and firmly asserted that the government would maintain its authority, in spite of opposition, of whatever nature. Very happy was this phrase, "Can aliens make treaties easier than real? Can friends be more faithfully enforced between aliens than laws among friends? Suppose you go to war. You cannot fight always, and when after much loss on both sides and no gain on either, you cease fighting, the identical old question as to terms of intercourse are again upon you." His manner, always earnest and suggestive of absolute honesty, was never more earnest, never more suggestive, never more tender than on this occasion, and mighty cheers rose to listening heavens, as the echoes repeated, the world around, this pregnant, significant closing utterance.

Pausing he looked about him.

Involuntarily his eye fell upon the watchful Tauncy, who sat in the immediate rear, upon the timid Buchanan, who looked at him with sincere sympathy, upon the glittering uniforms that made bright and brilliant the notable group about him, and then, with a motion of his hand as though to insure more perfect silence where all was as still as the grave itself, he said, with indescribable emphasis: "In your hands, my dissatisfied countrymen, and not in mine is the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assault you. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the government, which I shall have a most solemn one to preserve, protect and defend it."

The die was cast.

Shaking hands with his friends the President still attended by Mr. Buchanan, re-entered his carriage and drove to the White House, where General Scott greeted the party, and the customary reception was held, at which thousands of people, hurrying past, shook hands with the head of the government, wished him well and departed in peace.

(On Sunday next, July 8, this series of articles will be continued by Joseph Howard, Jr., who will continue his narrative of the Lincoln administration.—[ED. GLOBE.]

Justin W. T. - 1883

Lincoln's First Inaugural.

Ben Perley Poore, in Youth's Companion.

When Mr. Lincoln arrived [in Washington] in advance of the announced time, to escape threatened assassination, he brought his inaugural address with him in print, rather to the annoyance of Mr. Seward, who, as Secretary of State of the new Administration, had hoped to draft the production which was so eagerly awaited by the country. Mr. Lincoln had written his inaugural at Springfield, and had had it confidentially put in type by his friend, the local printer. Four copies were printed on foolscap paper, and wherever the writer thought that a paragraph would be effective he preceded it with a typographical fist. A carpet-bag, containing these printed copies of the forthcoming inaugural, was intrusted by Mr. Lincoln to his eldest son "Bob," now Secretary of War, who was so taken aback by the enthusiastic reception they received at Harrisburg, that he permitted a waiter to take it and forgot all about it. When asked for it by his father, he was forced to confess that he knew not where it was. Mr. Lincoln immediately started for the baggage room, and striding over the barrier at the door, he began overhauling without ceremony a large pile of carpet-bags until he was fortunate enough to find the one containing the precious document. After arriving at Washington Mr. Lincoln gave one copy of his inaugural to Mr. Seward and another to the venerable Francis P. Blair, asking them to read and criticise. Some changes were made of no great importance, which were given to Mr. Nicolay, the President's private secretary, to write in a fair hand on one of the printed copies, from which Mr. Lincoln was to read. Mr. Nicolay corrected another copy, which was furnished to the press, and which I now own. When Mr. Lincoln came out on the platform in front of the Capitol, his tall figure rising above those around him, the usual genial smile was on his angular countenance, but he seemed much perplexed to know what to do with a new silk hat and a large gold-headed cane. The cane he put under the table, but the hat appeared to be too good to place on the rough boards. Senator Douglas saw the embarrassment of his old friend, and rising, took the shining hat from its bothered owner and held it during the delivery of the inaugural address. Mr. Lincoln was listened to with great earnestness, and evidently desired to convince the multitude before him, rather than to bewilder or dazzle them. It was evident to all that he believed every word that he spoke, especially the concluding paragraph, which I copy from the original print:

"~~This~~ I am loth to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may be strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. ~~This~~ The mystic chords of memory which stretch from every battle-field and patriot grave to every loved heart and hearthstone all over our broad land will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as they surely will be, by the better angels of our nature."

## ABRAHAM LINCOLN

### Some Stories Concerning His First Inaugural Address.

Mr. Lincoln gave a cordial greeting to me when I called on him after his arrival at Willard's Hotel, and he indulged in some pleasant reminiscences of his Congressional career. Yes, I talked to him of his coming message, and after having made me promise that what he told should not get into print, he gave me an account of it. He had written it at his Springfield home, and had it put into type by his friend, the local printer. A number of sentences had been reconstructed several times, before they were entirely satisfactory, and then four copies had been printed on foolscap paper. These copies had been locked up in what Mr. Lincoln called a "grip-sack" and intrusted to his eldest son, Robert. "When he reached Harrisburg," said Mr. Lincoln, "and had washed up, I asked Bob where the message was, and was taken aback by his confession that in the excitement caused by the enthusiastic good-bye at our old home he believed he had let a waiter take the grip-sack. My heart went into my mouth, and I started down stairs, where I was told that if a waiter had taken the gripsack I would probably find it in the baggage room. Going there I saw a large pile of grip-sacks and other baggage, and thought that I had discovered mine. My key fitted it, but on opening it there was nothing inside but a few paper collars and a flask of whiskey."

A few moments afterward I came across my gripsack, with the document in it all right, and now I will show it to you, ou your honor, mind!" The inaugural was printed in clear-sized type, and wherever Mr. Lincoln had thought that a paragraph would make an impression upon his audience he had preceded it with a typographical fist.

At the inauguration, when Mr. Lincoln came out on the platform in front of the eastern portico of the Capitol, his tall, gaunt figure rose above those around him. His personal friend, Senator Baker, of Oregon, introduced him to the assemblage, and as he bowed acknowledgements of the somewhat faint cheers which greeted him, the usual genial smile lit up his angular countenance. He evidently perplexed then to know what to do with his new silk hat and a large gold-headed cane. The cane he put under the table, but the hat appeared too good to be placed on the rough boards. Senator Douglas saw the embarrassment of his old friend, and, rising, took the shining hat from its bothered owner, and held it during the delivery of the inaugural address. Mr. Lincoln was listened to with great earnestness, and evidently desired to convince the multitude before him rather than to bewilder or dazzle them. It was plain that he honestly believed every word that he spoke, especially the concluding paragraphs, one of which I copy from the original print:

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The mystic chords of memory which stretch from every battlefield and patriot's grave to every loved heart and hearthstone all over our broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as they surely will be, by the better angels in our nature."—Ben Perley Poore, in New York Tribune, Dec. 21, 1885.



# INAUGURATION MEMORIES.

When Lincoln Took the Oath of Office.

BOSTON EVENING TRANSCRIPT

The Inaugural Procession But Little More Than a Trade Parade—The "Union Ball"—Bull Run.

[Regular Correspondence of the Transcript.]

Washington, Feb. 26.

1897

"In speaking of inaugurations," said Colonel Walter H. French, the file clerk of the House of Representatives, today, "it beats all how things have changed since the first inauguration I saw here. That was in 1861. I had come down, a young man from Boston in 1857, and was cashier of the National Hotel through that stormy period before and after Lincoln's inauguration. In those days all the congressional people lived at the hotels, instead of in private residences about the city, as is now so generally the case. Four hotels did most of the business of the town, Brown's Hotel, now the Metropolitan, was a great headquarters for Southern people; Willard's, which was run by Vermont men, became a great place for visitors from the North and East; then there was the Washington Hotel, where the Vendome now is, and the National. Our hotel seemed true to its name in having among its guests representatives of all sections of the country. Twenty senators and perhaps fifty representatives boarded there during the winter of '60-'61, and that was a stormy time, I assure you. Everybody gathered in the lobbies and barrooms of the hotels evenings to discuss politics, and those debates were far from being peaceful. Zach Chandler of Michigan and Senator Brown of Mississippi used to have nightly discussions generally preceded by an indulgence in a favorite drink of that day, which Chandler had facetiously named the 'Constitutional.' When secession was threatened, Chandler would tell Brown that the Unionists would hew their way with the sword to the Gulf, whereupon Brown would tell how vigorously that attempt would be met. A pretty rough crowd from outside gathered in the lobbies for these discussions, and fist fights became very common. The evening before Lincoln's inauguration there was so severe a fight in the lobby of the National Hotel that the police had to come in to clear the whole crowd out."

"There was little law and order in Washington in those days. A year or two before some of the foreign ministers here had complained that they were not suitably protected, and Congress had established what was known as the metropolitan police system, but it did little to check the rowdiness of the city. There had been seven people killed here in one winter, I remember, and yet the population seemed rather indifferent to that state of things. No one ever thought of going out after dark unless he was well armed, and most of the men carried pistols all the time. When out late at night one would sometimes hear the cry, 'Get behind the tree box,' by which official warning was given that somebody intended to fire, and that innocent people had better get out of the way. The streets were ill-paved, dusty in summer and muddy in winter, and the carriage ruts on the wide avenues would curve in all directions, the teamsters trying to pick out the easiest route. Instead of street cars there was a line of old busses, run by a man named Vanderworkin, which used to ply between Georgetown and the navy yard. The residential part of the town was then down where Dr. Sunderland's church now is, that is in the section just northwest of the Capitol and within a few blocks of it. Secretary Tauxey lived on the corner diagonally across from the church, and Secretary Chase lived near by. F street was well built with comfortable residences, and Georgetown contained the homes of many of the old families, and particularly of retired naval officers. But Washington had then no residence population in the sense that it has today, and was, all told, a very unattractive town."

"I remember the first time I ever saw Abraham Lincoln. He came here about a week before inauguration, and the story of his coming is well known. We were not expecting him quite so soon, and awoke one morning to learn that he was already in town and at Willard's Hotel. During the week before inauguration he was closeted with advisers, but one evening about the first of March, Mr. E. G. Spaulding of Buffalo, who was living at the National Hotel, and afterwards became famous as the father of the greenback, gave a dinner party in honor of the President-elect. Most of the incoming cabinet were present, the New England senators and some of the prominent Republicans, in all about forty men. When the ladies of the National Hotel learned that Lincoln was dining in the house they were eager to see him and collected in the parlor for the purpose. As soon as an opportunity afforded, Lincoln came out of the private dining-room to shake hands with the ladies who had assembled in the parlors. It was then that I looked in, and got my first glimpse of the new President. I thought he was a very odd-looking man, tall, angular and ungraceful. Of course, after that I came to know him well. Those about him were then very fearful of assassination, and their alarm was well grounded. The sentiment of the city was very hot in those days, and by an overwhelming majority was on the other side. The detectives watched Lincoln very closely in those days, and it was wise that they did. Two of the force, Benjamin Heath and Captain William K. Jones, who are now living in Boston, were here some weeks before inauguration, and were also in Baltimore looking over the ground. They staid at our hotel and I was with them much of the time. The carriage in which Lincoln rode on inauguration day was covered by detectives, and there is no doubt but that his bodyguard was heavily armed. One historian says that riflemen were stationed on the roofs of the principal buildings on that day; this, too, is largely true, and there was good reason for it. Just after inauguration a number of the loyal people who had come to Washington organized what was known as the Cassius M. Clay Battalion, for the protection of the White House and the new President. Colonel Clay was a strong Union man and possessed of a considerable reputation for personal bravery. He was afterwards appointed minister to Russia, and is now living in Kentucky in retirement. The roster of this battalion contained many names of men who have since reached eminence. It served to tide over the period between the inauguration and the arrival of the regiments from Massachusetts and New York in response to Lincoln's call for troops. But until the Sixth Massachusetts and the Seventh New York arrived here, Northern men could hardly breathe easily. The Seventh New York came in a thousand strong, and in full military array marched up Pennsylvania avenue and made their camp at the head of Fourteenth street. They gave us a feeling of security. To this day I never ride out in the open cars to the Columbia Heights without seeing over again the scene as it then appeared. When we get near where the Chinese legation now is my wife will say, 'Why are you so silent?' My reason is that I think I can see the long lines of tents as they once stood on that very ground. The impression made on my youthful mind has never been effaced."

"But to return to the inauguration of Lincoln, I did not see him again after the night of the dinner at the National until he rode up the avenue with Buchanan on the 4th of March. I have never seen an inauguration day so warm as that one turned out to be, although a little cloudy in early morning. I started out with a party of friends to go to the Capitol, and when we had gone a little way, I went back with their wraps to the hotel and brought sunshades instead. A lot of boys from the Virginia Military Institute, to make a show of the spring weather we were having, came here in white trousers and straw hats, but I have al-

most forgotten them. Some of them must have taken back home with them about what we now call the 'grippe.' No matter how warm the middle of the day on the avenue may be in March, the weather is very treacherous after the sun goes down. Lincoln's inaugural address was short but impressive, and as I heard its closing paragraph I concluded that we had elected a president who was a great, strong man. The parade that followed was short, and was more like a trades-procession, as I remember it, than a military display. There was a carriage with thirty-four little girls representing the States of the Union, and several features of symbolic interest.

"In those days the Republican managers were doing everything in their power to manufacture Union sentiment and with that end in view they named the inaugural ball the Union Ball, and the cards of invitation to it were very large, and contained the names of two hundred and fifty prominent citizens. As I look over this list today I am surprised to find how few of the men are now alive; as near as my information goes, about thirty are still living. Of Buchanan's cabinet, Black, Stanton, Dix and King were on the list. Among the members of Congress were Stephen A. Douglas, Andrew Johnson, William Bigler, Benjamin F. Wade, John P. Hale, William Pitt Fessenden, Anson Burlingame, William S. Holman and Galusha A. Grow. The army officers were led by Generals Scott and Wool, and the navy by Commodores Stewart and Smith. Among the prominent citizens forming a part of the list Massachusetts men and New York men were particularly conspicuous; I find such names as Edward Everett, Samuel Hooper, Alpheus Hardy, George Ashmun, Edward Riddle, William Claflin, William Schouler, William Sutton, John T. Heard, Ezra Lincoln, Ben Perley Poore, John A. Goodwin, Z. K. Pangborn and Timothy Davis. Mr. Pangborn now lives in Jersey City, and was in my office a few days ago. I asked Mr. Grow to come out, and we three who had attended the Lincoln ball went over this list of names. Among the newspaper correspondents who assisted in the arrangements for this affair, and whose names are on the ball ticket, I find that of William B. Shaw for many years the Washington correspondent of the Boston Transcript. The ball was a very tame affair according to present standards; Mrs. Lincoln walked about on the arm of Senator Douglas, but Mrs. Douglas herself did not attend the ball as some accounts of it inaccurately state.

"But if the winter before the inauguration was an exciting time in Washington, the summer following was very much worse. Our hotel was very much crowded throughout. The rush of office-seekers that summer was greater than it has ever been since, and the administration made a pretty clean sweep. This was in many cases necessary, for former employees of the Government were leaving on every hand to enter the Confederate service. Some of the men whose names are on the ball card, if I am not mistaken, afterwards went over to the Confederacy, and the number of people who could not quite make up their minds which way to turn was very great. I remember a young officer who was disappointed at not getting a promotion; he said to me one evening, 'If these black Republicans think I am going to fight for them, they are mighty mistaken,' etc., in a very bitter spirit. The next day his promotion came, and he threw himself into the Union service and afterwards became one of the great generals of the war. During this period of uncertainty, before the actual opening of hostilities, a terrible fright took possession of the people of Washington. Anything to get out of town seemed to be the ruling passion. After the railroad was burned the other side of Baltimore I have seen as high as \$300 paid for a carriage to get over into Pennsylvania. Within sixty days after inauguration a great majority of the population of the town had gone South, that is, of the old families, and the Northerners, unless they had business in the city, were about as anxious to get into a safer spot. We

men looked upon the whole thing as a great circus, and it was long after before we took a really serious view of what was going on. We realized that the temper of the people was very warm, and had been for some time; we had seen the fights in the streets, and finally the marshalling of soldiers, but even this failed to give us any intimation that we were on the verge of the greatest war of modern times.

"I remember well the battle of Bull Run, and the effect upon the city before and after. I was pretty intimate with the officers in command of the headquarters of the New York Seventh, and I heard there that a movement was on hand. The general impression among the officers was that it would be out on the Baltimore and Ohio toward the Point of the Rocks, or somewhere in that vicinity. But I thought the movement would be across Long Bridge into Virginia. The Zouaves under Colonel Ellsworth had gone down the river opposite Alexandria some days before, and so I thought the next movement would be in the same direction. About half-past eleven one evening, a party of young men took a carriage and drove down to Long Bridge; but the officer there, who was a friend of mine, told me everything was absolutely quiet. We drove back to Willard's Hotel, and there we heard the tramp of soldiers without music coming down Fourteenth street. We drove back to the bridge, and did not have long to wait before the soldiers began to come. As we leaned against the railing of the old bridge, and saw the bayonets glistening in the bright moonlight with the quiet river beneath, it was very impressive. This was the first armed invasion from this point of the sacred soil of Virginia. The men broke step and went as quietly as possible. There were first two hundred cavalry, some artillery and then the infantry. They pushed over to the other side, and joined the Ellsworth Zouaves at Alexandria, and a part of the company built Fort Ronyon, which was down where the brickyards now are.

"The battle of Bull Run was some time after. The first I heard of it was about eight o'clock in the evening of the day that it was fought. Senator Chandler and a friend named Eaton, the postmaster at Detroit, came hurrying into the hotel, and Chandler asked me to get a doctor as soon as possible. Eaton had been wounded. These men with many others were spectators at the battle, but, when the panic began with the teamsters, Eaton tried to check it by cutting the traces on some of the teamster's wagons; this was resented and one of our drivers whipped out a pistol and shot Eaton in the wrist. Alfred Ely, a member of Congress who had been down there looking on, was captured by the Confederates and carried down to Libbey Prison. It was in the early evening when Chandler and Eaton arrived, and from that time on all night the soldiers were steadily pouring into the city in groups of all sizes, but mostly in ones and twos. Notices were posted all over the town the next morning directing the soldiers to go back to their old quarters and camps, and in about twenty-four hours the officers had succeeded in getting order restored. The regulars still held the forts outside the city and it is probable that any attempt on the part of the Confederates to capture the city would have been fruitless."

LINCOLN.



DRAWN BY T. DE THULSTRUP

MR. AND MRS. LINCOLN'S INTRODUCTION TO WASHINGTON SOCIETY: "THE LONG AND SHORT OF THE PRESIDENCY"

## WHEN LINCOLN WAS FIRST INAUGURATED\*

By Stephen Fiske

**L**HE country was in a condition that the present generation cannot realize when Abraham Lincoln, President-elect, started from his little wooden cottage at Springfield, Illinois, to occupy the White House at Washington. Six of the Southern States had seceded from the Union, had organized a provisional Government at Montgomery, Alabama, and had elected Jefferson Davis President and Alexander H. Stephens Vice-President. Commissioners from South Carolina were demanding from the Government the surrender of Fort Sumter. A Peace Congress, composed of representatives of most of the States, and presided over by ex-President Tyler, was framing abortive compromises, and keeping several doubtful States, such as Virginia and Texas, from seceding immediately. The United States Mint and Custom House at New Orleans had been seized by the secessionists. Rhode Island had voted in the Peace Conference for the eternal preservation of negro slavery south of latitude  $36^{\circ} 30'$ , and for compensation for slaves that might be freed by violence. Business men in Philadelphia and New York were calculating whether they could better afford to lose their Southern or their Northern trade. The Democratic party was divided and distracted. The new Republican party was more anxious about its responsibilities than triumphant over its first success. The whole nation was in disorder and confusion.

**L**INCOLN, who concealed a very serious mind under the drolleries of a comic story-teller, was not without experience in National affairs. After serving for several terms in the Legislature of Illinois he had been elected to Congress; had won a reputation as a humorist; had been introduced by Senator Seward to many prominent people; had lectured in New York and Boston, and had been awakened by Senator Sumner to the injustices of slavery and the imminence of the irrepressible conflict between patriotism and property in man. It was with a sad heart and a disturbed mind that he left the home where he had been "Honest old Abe" since boyhood, to tour through Indiana, Ohio, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania on his way to his inauguration; but he assumed a smiling face and a jovial manner, and his stock of stories never failed from Springfield to Harrisburg.

Most of the journey was exceedingly monotonous. At every station a party of local politicians came on the train. Several political leaders of National reputation and a few newspaper reporters came through in the special car. There was no privacy for Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, except when they went into their sleeping compartment. Everybody walked in or out, and talked or listened as he pleased. There was no ceremony, and Mr. Lincoln did not seem to care to inspire any personal respect. He told stories to the delegations that boarded the car, and

the delegates told stories to him. Occasionally, when the train stopped at a city or large town, he would go out on the hack platform and begin a speech, which was soon interrupted by the engineer, who thought more of the time-table than of the utterances of the President-elect.

THERE was one characteristic story that Mr. Lincoln began to relate at several stations, but it was always cut off by the locomotive whistle, so I asked him to tell me the end of it.

"Well," he said, "these continual stoppages remind me of a drive I once took to attend a convention at which I was to be nominated for the Legislature. The horse I hired was said to be a good horse, but the further I drove the slower it went, and when I reached my destination I found that the convention had nominated my opponent and adjourned. All the way back I kept thinking what such a horse could be good for, and when I drove up to the stable I asked its owner the question. He sort of chuckled and said:

"'Why, good horse for a funeral, I reckon.'

"'No, my friend,' I replied, 'never hire that horse for a burying party!'

"'Why not?' says he,

"'Because,' says I, as serious as a Judge, 'if that horse pulls the hearse the Day of Judgment will get here before the corpse strikes the graveyard!'

"Now, you see, it's the same way with this train. If they keep on stopping at every station for me to make a speech, this funeral will never reach Washington!"

AS I FIRST saw them, Mr. Lincoln was a tall, lank, gawky, ugly, country lawyer, his ill-proportioned, lantern-jawed face relieved by a fine forehead, and by large, solemn, heavy-lidded eyes that did not smile with his wide mouth, and Mrs. Lincoln was a small, plump, motherly woman, who had done her own housework and was not ashamed to talk about it. Long years afterward I found that Mr. Lincoln had grown with the great events of the Civil War, and that he had attained the dignity and impressiveness of a demigod. But at first sight he justified the exclamations of Senator Douglas, who had been his friend from boyhood, though opposed to him in politics, and who used to mutter in his sleep, when somewhat overcome by the hospitalities on the train: "Oh, Lord! Abe Lincoln the President of the United States! Oh, Lord! Abe Lincoln a President! Ha! Ha! Ha!"

When we arrived at New York City, by the Hudson River Railroad—the station was then on Thirtieth Street—there was a consultation about what was to be said in reply to Mayor Fernando Wood, who already had a reputation as a Democratic orator.

"I haven't any speech ready," said Mr. Lincoln. "I shall have to say just what comes into my head at the time."

This shows that the breaking off of the back-platform speeches along the route had probably been prearranged. Mr. Lincoln had nothing to say to the American people until his inaugural address.

THE train stopped; through the windows immense crowds could be seen; the cheering drowned the blowing off steam of the locomotive. Then Mrs. Lincoln opened her hand bag and said:

"Abraham, I must fix you up a bit for these city folks."

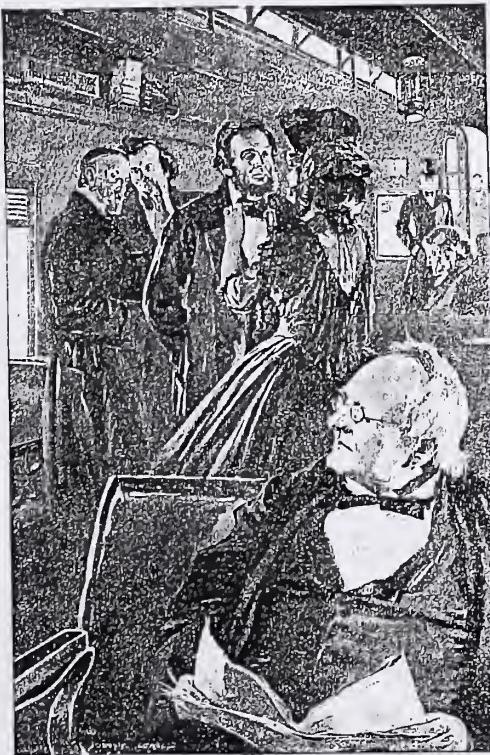
Mr. Lincoln gently lifted her upon the seat before him; she parted, combed and brushed his hair and arranged his black necktie.

"Do I look nice now, mother?" he affectionately asked.

"Well, you'll do, Abraham," replied Mrs. Lincoln critically. So he kissed her and lifted her down from the seat, and turned to meet Mayor Wood, courtly and suave, and to have his hand shaken by the other New York officials.

The next day the journey was resumed at Jersey City, and

\*The fifth of a series of articles on "Great Personal Events"—told by eyewitnesses—which will appear in successive issues of the Journal. The series will include the most conspicuous popular enthusiasms which America has witnessed during the past fifty years. The greatest potentates, statesmen, orators, preachers and songstresses will be the central figures of this notable series, which began in the JOURNAL of November, 1896.



DRAWN BY ORSON LOWELL

"FIXING" MR. LINCOLN TO MEET "CITY FOLKS"

March, 1897

Mr. Lincoln greeted me like a long-lost friend, and Mrs. Lincoln made room for me on the seat beside her. The apparent inadequacy of this simple couple for the dignities which they were approaching was rather painful to observe; but the observer was mistaken: the inadequacy was only apparent. There was the customary interrupted speech at the New Jersey stations, and at New Brunswick, where I shook hands with my boyhood and college friends, Mr. Lincoln turned to me and playfully asked:

"Is this your reception or mine?"

When the matter was explained and Rutgers College pointed out to him he remarked:

"Ah! That is what I have always regretted—the want of a college education. Those who have it should thank God for it."

#### APPREHENSION FOR THE PRESIDENT-ELECT'S SAFETY

PHILADELPHIA gave Mr. Lincoln a fine reception. It was on Washington's Birthday and the crowd made holiday. But there had been a secret meeting of the Government officials and the Republican leaders, and the Presidential party went on to Harrisburg, ostensibly to visit Governor Curtin. At Harrisburg another special correspondent and myself occupied a large, double-bedded room. We were very comfortable physically, but uneasy mentally. A correspondent has an instinct for news; we felt that there was something going on that we ought to know but did not. About midnight we started to go to the telegraph office and ask if anything important had happened anywhere.

The door of our room was locked!

Each suspected the other of playing some trick, and after ringing the bell violently, pounding and kicking the door, I went to a window and began to discuss the possibility of climbing down from the third story. Just as we were planning how to do this the locked door opened, a short, thick-set man entered, relocked the door and said:

"Very sorry, gentlemen, but you must not leave this room to-night; talk quickly!"

The man had formerly been in the employ of the Adams Express Company and was now a Secret Service agent of the Government. His orders were to prevent any report from being telegraphed from Harrisburg, and he insisted upon our paroles before he would talk to us. At length he became amenable to reason and supper, and agreed to tell us what had happened, but only upon condition, however, that we would not telegraph it without his permission.

#### LINCOLN'S SECRET JOURNEY TO WASHINGTON

THEN came the wonderful story. Mr. Lincoln had gone to Washington by way of Philadelphia on a special train, because General Scott feared that he would be assassinated; Mrs. Lincoln had accompanied him, and the rest of the party had been detained at Harrisburg. There was no disguise of "a Scotch cap and long military cloak" in the original story; one of the correspondents interpolated that. But to have such news and not be able to send it to our papers in New York was, indeed, almost maddening. The sentinel looked at his watch and said gravely:

"By this time Mr. Lincoln is in Washington or in Heaven! Now, gentlemen, I give you back your paroles!"

In a very few minutes we were at the telegraph office, and the next morning the whole country knew that the President-elect had reached the nation's Capital in safety.

That there was any good reason for this midnight journey has been often disputed, but no one who knew the circumstances ever doubted its wisdom.

We took the first train that followed the Lincoln special, and the journey was most exciting. Every jolt suggested a bomb, every blast of the locomotive whistle an attack. From every station we sent dispatches to New York. But for the time the plotters of assassination were paralyzed, and we found Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln at Willard's Hotel, Washington, surrounded by a volunteer guard of stern-faced Republicans who had come from all parts of the country.

#### THE LONG AND SHORT OF THE PRESIDENCY

THERE, on the following Monday, the introduction of the President-elect to Washington society took place. The hotel parlors were crowded with elegantly-dressed ladies, and with gentlemen who had long held positions in the official aristocracy, most of them secretly sympathizing with secession and all curious to see "the rail-splitter," who had split the Southern States from the Union, "the Western baboon," as they politely designated him. Presently, from a side door that suggested a scene on the stage, emerged the face of Mr. Lincoln, smiling nervously; then his tall, thin, awkward body; then a long arm, and finally, at the end of this arm, a dumpy little woman. He was dressed in a new suit of shiny black that had been presented to him as an advertisement by an enterprising tailor. She was wrapped in a white shawl. Mr. Lincoln looked at the fashionable assembly and said, in his clear, distinct voice:

"Ladies and gentlemen, permit me to present to you the long and short of the Presidency!"

As he said "the long" he bowed; as he said "the short," he looked down at Mrs. Lincoln and smiled. A shudder ran through the parlors. The ladies stared at the strange couple; the gentlemen bent their heads. That man the President of the United States! That woman the first lady of the land! All the etiquette of the Republican court that had been established since the days of President Washington was violated. Even we Northerners, who stood sturdily and unfalteringly by the new President, could not help recalling the words of Senator Douglass.

Threats of assassination were in the air and Mr. Lincoln was carefully guarded. The Capital was filling up with Cromwellians from New England and the West—resolute, fighting men who were to take part in the inaugural procession that the secessionists were expected to attack. On the morning of March 4 I called at Willard's Hotel and found that Mr. Lincoln had risen at sunrise and was revising his inaugural address, because Tom Corwin had used some of its phrases in a speech delivered the day before. His Cabinet had been announced in the morning papers—Seward, Chase, Simon Cameron, Montgomery Blair, the giants of those days.

#### THE FEAR OF ASSASSINATION IN EVERY MIND

AS I WALKED up to the Capitol the wide, dusty streets were already crowded. Regular troops were posted at intervals along Pennsylvania Avenue. Sharpshooters were climbing over the roofs of the houses. A mounted officer at every corner was ready to report to General Scott the passage of the procession. Detectives in plain clothes squirmed through the masses of people. The policemen had been instructed to arrest for "disorderly conduct" any person who called Mr. Lincoln an opprobrious name or uttered a disloyal sentiment. There was much suppressed excitement, and the prophetic word "assassination" was in every mind.

President Buchanan, whose term expired at noon, was engaged until half an hour later in signing the bills that had been hurriedly passed, but the Congressional clock had been put back to legalize the transaction. At last he drove down to Willard's and the procession was formed. The President and President-elect rode in an open barouche; but this confidence in the people was more apparent than real. On the front seat were Senators Baker and Pearce; a guard of honor of the regular cavalry surrounded the carriage; beyond were mounted marshals four files deep. From the sidewalk no one could accurately distinguish Mr. Lincoln. Close behind marched regiments of regulars and marines, fully armed. It seemed more like escorting a prisoner to his doom than a President to his inauguration.

Straggling behind the military were veterans of the Revolutionary War, of the War of 1812, and of the Mexican War, members of the Peace Congress, delegations from the loyal States. There were only about seven hundred of these delegates in line, and of these three hundred came from New York to honor Secretary Seward. Then came a division of colored volunteers, which was greeted with whispered curses. Never before had colored men been seen in a military procession, except as carriers of water or of targets. There was a tableau car, drawn by white horses and escorted by a company of Republican Wide-awakes, and I noticed that the pretty girls who represented the North and the South were quarreling typically.

**LITTLE CHEERING FOR THE PALE, ANXIOUS PRESIDENT-ELECT**

LITTLE cheering and no enthusiasm greeted the procession. Every now and then an arrest for "disorderly conduct" was quickly and quietly made in the crowd. The sunshine was bright, but the whole affair was as gloomy as if Mr. Lincoln were riding through an enemy's country—as, indeed, he was. A trifling incident proved this. A rumor ran from lip to lip that the Presidential carriage had broken down, and only the prompt action of the troops in pushing back the spectators prevented cheers of triumph over this evil omen.

As they left the barouche at the steps of the Capitol, Buchanan looked very grave, Lincoln pale and anxious, and both were covered with dust. I entered the Senate chamber with Hannibal Hamlin, the Vice-President-elect, who had walked up from Willard's, and had noted the hostility of the spectators. The Senate chamber was overcrowded; many ladies had been in the galleries since midnight. Vice-President Breckinridge took charge of Mr. Hamlin, and the new Vice-President assumed his office with no more formality than the swearing of an ordinary juror.

Meanwhile the President and the President-elect had been refreshed; and Marshal French formed the procession from the Senate chamber to the portico of the Capitol. The platform was filled with officials and diplomats, and about thirty thousand persons had assembled to listen to the inaugural address. They were very quiet; not obtrusively hostile, but obviously unfriendly. The shadow of civil war obscured the sunshine and hung like a pall over the proceedings. Senator Baker, of Oregon, formally introduced Mr. Lincoln, who seemed more tall, more gaunt, more ugly and more awkward than ever as he fumbled in his pocket for his manuscript and put on large, steel-rimmed spectacles. The crowd jeered at him *sotto voce*, and some said, "Look at old goggles!" A few more arrests for "disorderly conduct" were promptly made by the officers, and a dead silence ensued.

#### THE CROWD UNMOVED BY THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS

MR. LINCOLN read his address slowly, distinctly, but without any oratorical emphasis or gestures. As soon as it became clear that he would maintain the Union even by force of arms, the audience was indifferent. There were no cheers and no cries of dissent. When he had ended with those noble words: "We are not enemies, but friends; we must not be enemies; though passion may have strained, it must not break, our bonds of affection; the mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield, and patriot grave, to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature"—there was no response. Then Lincoln bowed his head as if in silent prayer, sighed wearily as if he knew that he had failed to touch the Southern heart, and turned to Chief Justice Taney to take the oath of office. The Chief Justice trembled with age or with anxiety. Lincoln was the eighth President to whom he had administered the oath, and the Chief Justice, it was quite apparent, feared that he would be the last.

Reentering the barouche, with Mr. Buchanan as his guest, President Lincoln was escorted to the White House, the procession now moving much more quickly than before. He had recovered his spirits, and urged Mr. Buchanan to "Come in and take something to wash the dust from your throat," but Mr. Buchanan declined with stately courtesy and at once withdrew to the residence of District Attorney Ould. During the White House dinner President Lincoln was called from the table to deliver a brief speech to the New York delegation, and at its conclusion he said, with his usual humor: "I guess that Seward ought to have made that speech."

At the Inauguration Ball, which was given at the City Hall that evening, only about two thousand persons were present. Mr. Buchanan did not attend. Washington society had resolved to ignore the new President. It was a sombre festivity, for already the lines between the North and the South were sharply defined. The majority of the guests were not in evening dress. The Republican ladies did not care to dance. To those who had known Washington in the old days the ball seemed very much like a funeral.

#### THE PRESIDENT IN JOYFUL SPIRITS AT THE INAUGURATION BALL

WHEN the Presidential party entered the ballroom Senator Douglas, faithful among the faithful, gallantly gave his arm to Mrs. Lincoln. A few hours and a good dressmaker had transformed that simple little woman into quite a belle. She was tastefully attired in a very becoming blue gown, and she carried a large fan and, gave me the bouquet and the surprising information: "We had flowers all over the table for dinner!"

The President and Mrs. Lincoln did not dance, so an impromptu reception was substituted for the court quadrille, and almost every person was presented to Mr. Lincoln and shook hands with him. He was in joyful spirits, as full of fun as a boy. When he noticed me he made a wry face, pushed up his sleeves and said, "This hand-shaking is harder work than rail-splitting."

After the supper, when the ball had become more like a dance, I handed Mrs. Lincoln her bouquet, and ventured to congratulate the President upon his improved health. He responded so cordially that I was emboldened to ask whether he had any special news that I might send to Mr. Bennett, the editor of the "New York Herald."

"Yes," he replied, looking at me significantly, "you may tell him that Thurlow Weed has found out that Seward was not nominated at Chicago!"

This was very old news, another "Lincoln joke," and I smiled and took my leave. But on my way to the telegraph office the joke assumed most serious proportions. It meant, on the authority of the President himself, that Chase had been exposed and defeated; that Chase was to remain Secretary of the Treasury and master of the situation; that the sceptre of political power had passed forever from New York and the South to the great West, and that Lincoln was to be President in fact as well as in name. So tremendous was the importance of this "joke" that it crowded out for a day the description that I had previously telegraphed of the costumes at the curious ball which ended the first inauguration of President Lincoln.

**EDITOR'S NOTE—The sixth article of the "Great Personal Events" series—**

"When Lafayette Rode into Philadelphia"

Will be published in the next (April) JOURNAL. It will be a graphic description of the great public demonstrations, entertainments, receptions, etc., in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette, in Philadelphia, upon the occasion of his visit to the United States as the nation's guest. Also, "When Seward Will Strike" will strikingly illustrate the article. Preceding articles of the "Great Personal Events" series, which have appeared in the JOURNAL: "When Jenny Lind Sang in Cincinnati," December, 1856; "When Mr. Beecher Sold Slaves in Plymouth Pulpit," December, 1857; "When the Prince of Wales was in America," January, 1858; "When Kossuth Rode Up Broadway," February, 1857.



#### A FAIR WOMAN'S FACE

By Helen Earle

JIMMY DAWSON had finished his day's work—that is, he had spent the morning mending a net which he hoped to rent in the afternoon, and he had spent the afternoon waiting for some one who had spoken of wanting his tackle, as well as one of his dories. The day could not be called a prosperous one. But what is prosperity? Jimmy had his cottage, his dories, a few precious books—the remnants of his college library, and of his brief life in the world—the memory of his sainted mother, his gentle, religious life, and his scorn of women in general.

He walked from his boat-house to his cottage, and entered his small kitchen. Everything was in exquisite order. A small looking-glass on one side of the room reflected his long gray beard and gray hair, and his gentle, refined face. He had taken down a volume of Horace when the door to his front room, or shop, opened, and he hastened forward to see who the customer might be. The small stock of stationery which he carried for the village folk brought him an occasional visitor from the hotel near by. He stepped back hastily. No, it cannot be, yet so like, so like! Twenty odd summers ago a woman's word had crushed the ambitions of his youth, and had sent him, a lonely recluse, to pass his life on the rocks and under the pines where he first saw his love.

"I hear that you keep pens and pencils," a gentle voice was saying.

Jimmy roused himself and replied. His voice had a singular, minor sweetness. The pens proved desirable. What a face she had! A tumult of memories crowded upon him. Hoping to detain his visitor longer he gave a few Florida beans, which he had received as cash from a village bargainer, to the boy who had followed her. He must look at her and hear her voice; he would tell her about himself; she would understand. He showed a rare old chair belonging to a set of four, in one of which George Washington had sat; he took out a letter written by his great-grandfather. His visitor seemed interested, spoke about his cozy cottage and the beauty of the region.

A great thought had been taking shape in Jimmy's mind; it came out timidly! "I was about to have my tea when you came in. Will you not stay, you and your son, and sup with me?"

She accepted in a gracious way. Overcome with joy Jimmy drew out a spindle-legged table, and arranged it by the blue and white china that had not been used since "dear mother" died. He was sorry that his beans were cold and his brown bread hard, but he could make good tea. He kept glancing shyly toward his guest, who had taken up a favorite volume of Whittier, and to her son was reading softly "The Swan Song of Parson Avery," who met his death on the rocks along the lighthouse ledge. Jimmy listened. Would the story which he was about to tell, prove his last word, perhaps his swan song? How sweet it all was! He trembled.

The three sat down together, and Jimmy said a simple grace. Conscious of a lack, he went to a chest of drawers and took from it an apron, white, figured with delicate blue. "It was dear mother's, but you may use it to protect your dress. I am sorry that I have no napkin."

His soul was full of a strange content. After the simple meal, and a dreamy, reminiscent talk in the twilight, Jimmy watched his visitors depart. The waves, cherished companions of many years, crooned their rhythmic song; the pine trees, too, murmured the old story. In the gathering darkness Jimmy was again alone, but he no longer hated all women.



## Lincoln's Inauguration in 1861



THIS year of the presidential inauguration and of the Lincoln centennial will make the accompanying illustration doubly interesting. It shows the gathering of the crowd in front of the national Capitol on the fourth of March, 1861, to witness the inauguration of the western "rail-splitter" into the highest office in the United States. Prominent in the picture is the unfinished dome of the Capitol, with the huge derricks and a part of the raw construction work showing. The great bronze figure of "Freedom" now

surmounting the dome was then resting on the ground, waiting for the completion of the dome and the lantern to form its pedestal.

This inauguration was unlike all others in our history. The clouds of approaching civil war were gathering darkly over the country. Washington was cold to Lincoln, being practically a southern city and surrounded by southern territory. Maryland was a slave state, and its metropolis, Baltimore, was considered hostile to the incoming president, being the one prominent city which had withheld its official hospitality from him. Allan Pinkerton and William H. Seward had warned Lincoln of a plot against him, to be executed in Baltimore, and he was forced by this to make his journey from Harrisburg to Washington secretly. When he did arrive at the national capital he took it by surprise, and there were many well-grounded fears of violence. Even the short journey from his hotel to the Capitol was regarded as hazardous, and Pennsylvania Avenue was heavily guarded by cavalrymen from one end to the other. Riflemen were stationed upon the roofs of the buildings overlooking the avenue, and also at the windows of the Capitol during the inauguration. There was also a battalion of soldiers near the

steps and a battery of flying artillery was posted in the rear of the crowd.

James Morgan, in his story of Lincoln, says: "As Lincoln stepped to the place where he was to be invested with his tremendous responsibilities to his country and mankind he was the center of a remarkable group of historical characters. Within reach of his arm stood the president, James Buchanan, about to pass into retirement after forty years of distinguished public service; Roger B. Taney, the learned and venerable chief justice, from whose Dred

Scott decision Lincoln had made his successful appeal to the nation; Stephen A. Douglas, a witness here to the final victory of his lifelong rival; John C. Breckinridge, another defeated candidate for president in the recent contest, who but a few minutes before had laid down the gavel of the vice-president, and who ere many months would be in arms against the Union; finally, William H. Seward, who was consoling himself for the loss of the presidency with the hope that he might become the master of this novice, whom the Chicago convention had strangely preferred to him.

"As Lincoln moved forward to begin his address only a faint cheering greeted him from his half unfriendly audience. Removing his brilliant new silk hat, he was seeking a resting place for it when Douglas stretched forth his hand and took it and held it throughout the ceremony. By this simple but dramatic act of courtesy the Democratic leader of the North signalized alike to the friends and to the enemies of the Union his readiness to serve and sustain the new president in the crisis which confronted him.

"All the exultant joy of an inauguration was missing from Lincoln's. Like his childhood, like his young manhood, like his love and marriage, his inaugural day must

[February 27, 1909]

be tinged with melancholy and clouded with forebodings of evil. Every other president had received his great honor from a united country. It came to him from a Union torn by discord and broken by secession.

"Each of his predecessors could cheer himself with the hope that he might have the happy fortune to hand down the shield of the nation with an added star. With Lincoln, on the contrary, it was a very different question. How many stars must he lose and how many could he save was the heart-wracking problem with which he grappled as he stood there on the steps of the Capitol, registering in heaven, as he said, a solemn oath to preserve, protect, and defend the constitution and the Union."

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SCENE OF LINCOLN'S INAUGURATION, 1861  
From the collection of Mr. Frederick H. Meserve, New York.

## CARL SCHURZ'S PICTURE OF LINCOLN INAUGURATION.

A striking picture has been left to us of the inauguration of Lincoln. It occurs in the reminiscences of Carl Schurz, and is as follows:

It was thought important, in view of the troubulous state of things, that as large as possible a number of Republicans be present in Washington at the time of Mr. Lincoln's inauguration, and I found a great many friends, old and new, when I arrived there on March 1.

The air was still thick with rumors of "rebel plots" to assassinate Mr. Lincoln, or to capture him and carry him off before he could take hold of the reins of government. He had stolen a march upon what conspiracy there may have been by entering the National Capital unexpected and unobserved on the morning of February 23, and was, no doubt, well guarded.

The multitude of Republicans assembled in the city were not satisfied that the danger was over, and saw treasonable designs in every scowling face observed on the streets or in the windows.

But the inauguration passed off without disturbance. I was favored with a place in front of the great portico of the Capitol, from which I could distinctly hear and see every part of the official function.

I saw Lincoln step forward to the desk upon which the Bible lay—his rugged face, appearing above all those surrounding him, calm and sad, but so unlike any other in that distinguished assemblage that one might have doubted how they could work together.

I saw Senator Douglas standing close by him, his defeated antagonist, the "little giant" of the past period, who, only two years before, had haughtily treated Lincoln like a tall dwarf. I witnessed the remarkable scene when Lincoln, about to deliver his inaugural address, could not at once find a convenient place for his hat, and Douglas took that hat and held it like an attendant, while Lincoln was speaking.

I saw the withered form of Chief Justice Taney, the author of the famous Dred Scott decision, that judicial compend of the doctrine of slavery, administer the oath of office to the first President elected on a distinct anti-slavery platform.

I saw, standing by, the out-going President, James Buchanan, with his head slightly inclined on one side, and his winking eye, and his white neck-cloth—the man who had done more than any other to degrade and demoralize the national government and to encourage the rebellion, now to retire to an unhonored obscurity, and to the dreary task of trying to make the world believe that he was a better patriot and statesman than he appeared to be.

I heard every word pronounced by Abraham Lincoln's kindly voice, of that inaugural address which was to be a message of peace and good will, but the reception of which in the South as a proclamation of war showed clearly that no offer of compromise, indeed, that nothing short of complete acceptance of their scheme of an independent slaveholding empire would have satisfied the Southern leaders.

B. M. — 1885



# LINCOLN ASSUMED OFFICE WITH NATION IN TURMOIL

**Passing of Semicentennial of Inauguration of Great War President,**  
**March 4, 1861—Sharpshooters on Pennsylvania Avenue**

**Roofs, to Prevent Threatened Assassination.**

**Stirring Scenes and Pathetic Appeal.**

From the New York Evening Post, March 4.

Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated as President of the United States for his first term 50 years ago this day. Seven of the Southern States already had declared themselves out of the Union, and in the very hour that the new President was delivering his great inaugural address at Washington, pleading that the nation be maintained unbroken, the representatives of those States sitting as the congress of the Confederacy at Montgomery were voting for the adoption of the stars and bars as the flag of a new government.

That flag was hoisted for the first time on that same March afternoon above the State capitol of Alabama, an hour after Lincoln had said, "I hold that, in contemplation of universal law and the Constitution, the union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments. It is safe to assume a provision in its organic law for its own assert that no government proper ever had termination. Continue to execute all the express provisions of our national Constitution, and the Union will endure forever—it being impossible to destroy it, except by some action not provided for in the instrument itself."

And further on in the address, "It follows from these views that no State upon its own mere motion can lawfully get out of the Union; that resolves and ordinances to that effect are legally void; and the acts of violence within any State or States, against the authority of unlimited States, are insurrectionary or revolutionary, according to circumstances. I, therefore, consider that, in view of the Constitution and the laws, the Union is unbroken, and to the extent of my ability I shall take care, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the States."

#### Nucleus of Confederacy.

The seven States referred to in the order of their secession were South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas. In all of these States Federal property had been seized, and forts, custom houses, and postoffices taken. In Louisiana the Confederacy had gained a big nucleus for its treasury by taking the United States mint at New Orleans. The value of the government property seized in the closing days of the weak and submissive Buchanan administration was, all told, about \$20,000,000.

In the seven States that led the way out of the Union, the American flag was flying in only three places when Lincoln became President—at Fort Pickens, op-

buildings on both sides of Pennsylvania avenue, along the line of march between the Capitol and the White House, with the instructions to shoot anybody who should attempt to fire at Lincoln.

#### Emergency Preparations.

Cavalry of the regular army and militiamen were scattered about the city for use in an emergency, and several batteries of flying artillery were near the Capitol ready to fire either blank cartridges for salutes or solid shot for trouble. So great was the tension of the occasion that the venerable Gen. Scott insisted on keeping in personal touch with the military arrangements for the day.

Gen. Stone, who was in immediate command, made the following entry of the event in his diary:

"On the afternoon of March 3, Gen. Scott held a conference at his headquarters, there being present his staff, Gen. Sumner, and myself; and there was arranged the program of the procession. President Buchanan was to drive to Willard's Hotel and call upon the President-elect. The two were to ride in the same carriage, between double files of a squadron of the District of Columbia cavalry. The company of sappers and miners were to march in front of the presidential carriage, and the Infantry and riflemen of the District were to follow it.

"Riflemen in squads were to be placed on the roofs of certain commanding houses which I had selected along Pennsylvania avenue, with orders to watch the windows on the opposite side, and to fire upon them in case any attempt should be made to fire from those windows on the presidential carriage. The small force of regular cavalry which had arrived was to guard the side street crossings of Pennsylvania avenue, and to move from one to another, during the passage of the procession. A battalion of District of Columbia troops was to be placed near the steps of the Capitol, and riflemen in the windows of the wing of the Capitol. On the arrival of the presidential party at the Capitol the troops were to be stationed so as to return in the same order after the ceremony."

#### Visitors Overcrowd City.

This program as outlined in Gen. Stone's record was adhered to. In spite of the exodus from Washington to the South, which had been going on ever since the Republican victory at the polls, the city was crowded. Men and women who had come from New England, from New York, and Pennsylvania, and from the middle West, to see the ceremonies, walked the streets all night for lack of hotel accommodations, and long before the hour of the parade there were thousands of weary but excited people, burdened with carpetbags,

lined up on both sides of Pennsylvania avenue, awaiting they knew not what, but fearing almost everything.

A dozen times in the course of the forenoon there came the groundless report that Lincoln had been killed at his hotel. Emotional women became hysterical. Men prayed in the streets for the preservation of Lincoln and the Union. And there were thousands there, too, just as excited and just as sincere, ready to respond to the call of their States south of the Potomac to join in the effort to break that union.

### Changing Address Tone.

Mr. Lincoln got up at 5 o'clock in the morning, and began the day by having his son Robert read the inaugural to him. It was then in its final shape, except for one more change suggested in the course of the forenoon by William H. Seward, and made by the President-elect. There had been many such suggestions, from the same source, and Mr. Lincoln had adopted most of them. That message was originally written in Springfield, Ill., where Lincoln hired a vacant room over a grocery store opposite the State capitol, in which to do the work without interruption. Mr. Seward, of New York, who was to be the Secretary of State in Lincoln's cabinet, and a very few other friends and advisers, saw the original draft. Most of them were satisfied with it as it was. Seward insisted on many changes for the purpose of conciliating the South.

"Mr. Seward's policy," say Nicolay and Hay in their life of Lincoln, "as announced in his 12th of January speech, was to meet prejudice with conciliation, exaction with concession which surrenders no principle, and violence with the right hand of peace." Mr. Lincoln's policy was without prejudice or passion to state frankly and maintain firmly the position and doctrines assumed by the American people in the late presidential election. Mr. Seward believed himself to be the past and the coming peacemaker; and thus his whole effort was to soften, to postpone, to use diplomacy. His corrections of the inaugural were in this vein; a more careful qualification of statement, a greater ambiguity of phrase, a gain in smoothness, but a loss in brevity and force."

### Congress in Extra Session.

After the last touch had been given to the address at the hotel Lincoln locked his door and remained alone until Buchanan called for him. Then the two entered the retiring President's open brougham and drove in the procession to the Capitol. An hour before their arrival Hannibal Hamlin had taken the Vice President's oath and assumed the chairmanship of the Senate, which went immediately into special session as the upper house of the new Congress after an all-night final session as a part of the old Congress. The chamber was crowded with members of both branches of the legislature. The diplomatic corps was there in full court dress, and all the justices of the Supreme Court of the United States. The galleries were jammed, the corridors were filled with men and women harboring vain hopes of getting in, while outside tens of thousands were waiting patiently for the inaugural ceremonies in front of the east portico.

### Retiring President Nervous.

Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Buchanan arrived in the Senate chamber at 1:30 o'clock. The retiring chief magistrate was deathly pale and obviously nervous. From the chamber the two men led the way to the portico, followed by the court, the Ambassadors, the senators, and representatives.

The President-elect, his predecessor, Chief Justice Taney, of the Supreme Court, and Senator Baker, of Oregon, sat together under a temporary wooden canopy. The diplomats and other dignitaries were assigned to seats at the right and left. Senator Baker introduced Lincoln, who stepped quickly to the front of the platform, put on his spectacles, placed his manuscript upon a small table, using his cane as a paperweight, and then began his great speech.

### Lincoln's Touching Speech.

Often he was interrupted by cheers, but, save for the sobbing of many men and women, there was for several minutes after the closing paragraph the same impressive silence which, two years and more afterward, Lincoln mistook for a sign that his great speech at Gettysburg had been a failure.

At the close of the address Chief Justice Taney, who had administered the oath to the seven preceding Presidents, beginning with Van Buren, performed the same office for Lincoln, and the new administration had begun.

On the march back over Pennsylvania avenue to the White House, the same precautions against assassination were taken, but the throngs were much more buoyant, as if a crisis had been passed safely. The bands played "Yankee Doodle," "Hail Columbia," and the "Star-Spangled Banner." And, like the President of the nation, the band leaders recognized no break, for they gave the signal for "Dixie" as often as for the popular tunes of the North.

Soon after Lincoln had reached the White House all the members of the diplomatic corps called in a body to pay the respects of their several nations.

They were the new President's first callers. Upon their departure the doors were thrown wide open, and the public poured in. In the crowd were 34 little girls, representing the States, dressed in white, with flag sashes. They had ridden in the procession on a float. When they arrived at the White House the President thanked them for adding so much to the pleasure of the people, and kissed each one of them. The festivities ended with the ball in the evening. Mr. Lincoln went to that, too, and remained an hour.

### South Resents Inaugural.

In the South the reports of the day's chief event were not satisfactory. The inaugural was described as a declaration of war. In the North there were many who found fault, some because they did not think it aggressive enough, others because they thought it was not sufficiently conciliatory to insure peace.

The Richmond Enquirer said: "No action of our convention can now maintain peace. Virginia must fight."

"Every border State ought to go out of the Union in 24 hours," said the Richmond Dispatch, and similar responses to the message came from all the States that had seceded or were about to secede.

But in these days it is difficult to understand how anybody, especially anybody in the North, could find fault with what the historians have since classed among Lincoln's great state papers. There was no declaration in it against the South or slavery. On the contrary, quoting from one of his speeches of the campaign, he declared, "I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so."

### Separation Impossible.

"Physically speaking," he declared farther on in his address, "we cannot separate. We cannot remove our respective sections from each other, nor build an impassable wall between them. A husband and wife may be divorced, and go out of the presence and beyond the reach of each other; but the different parts of our country cannot do this. They cannot but remain face to face, and intercourse, either amicable or hostile, must continue between them. Is it possible, then, to make that intercourse more advantageous or more satisfactory after separation than before? Can aliens make treaties easier than friends can make laws? Can treaties be more faithfully enforced between aliens than laws can among friends? Suppose you go to war, you cannot fight always; and when, after much loss on both sides, and no gain on either, you cease fighting, the identical old questions as to terms of intercourse are again upon you."

"This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to overthrow it. I cannot be ignorant of the fact that many worthy and patriotic citizens are desirous of having the national Constitution amended. While I make no recommendation of amendments, I fully recognize the rightful authority of the people over the whole subject, to be exercised in either of the modes prescribed in the instrument itself; and I should, under existing circumstances, favor rather than oppose a fair opportunity being afforded to the people to act upon it."

### Closing Appeal for Peace.

Mr. Lincoln closed with this appeal for peace:

"My countrymen, one and all, think calmly and well upon this whole subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. If there be an object to hurry any of you in hot haste to a step which you would never take deliberately, that object will be frustrated by taking time; but no good object can be frustrated by it. Such of you as are now dissatisfied still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and, on the sensitive point, the laws of your own framing under it, while the new administration will have no immediate power, if it would, to change either. If it were admitted that you who are dissatisfied hold the right side in the dispute, there still is no single good reason for precipitate action. Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him who has never yet forsaken this favored land are still competent to adjust in the best way all our present difficulty.

### Loath to Conclude.

"In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without being yourself the aggressors. You have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the government, while I shall have the most solemn one to 'preserve, protect, and defend it.'

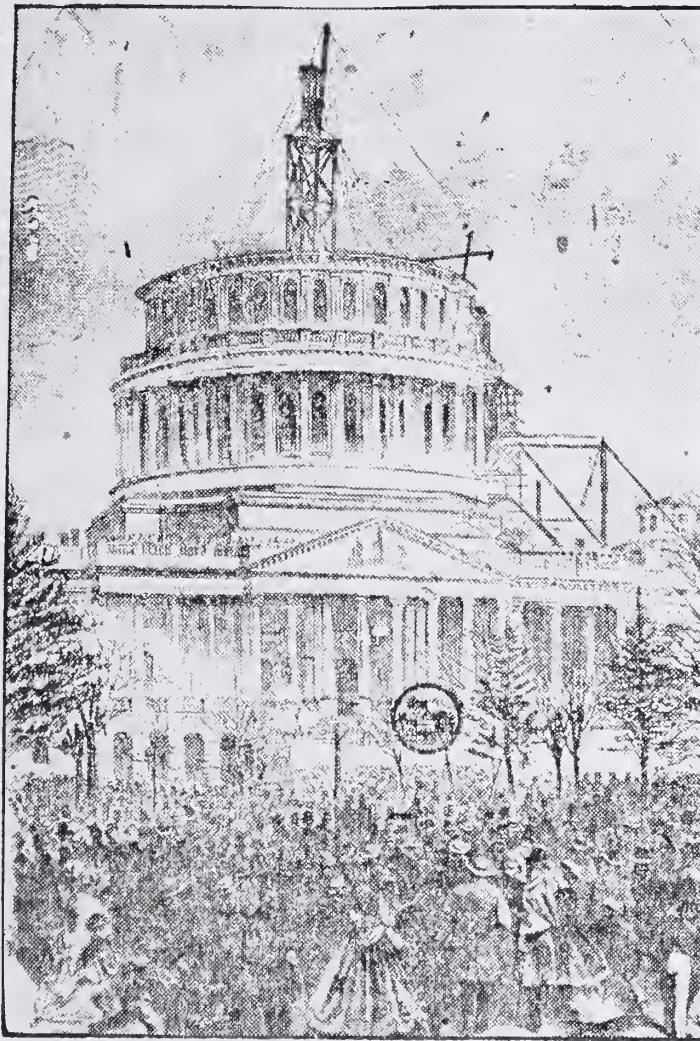
"I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

# ON THE EVE OF WAR

## Fifty Years Ago Today.

BOSTON GLOBE 3-4-1911

March 4, 1861—The Inauguration at Washington of Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States.



THE SCENE AT LINCOLN'S INAUGURATION.

From a contemporary sketch, showing the unfinished condition of the capitol. Lincoln stood under the canopy about which the circle is drawn.

**F**IIFTY years ago today, at noon, an open barouche drove up to the Pennsylvania entrance of Willard's hotel, in Washington. Its single occupant was "a large, heavy, awkward-moving man, far advanced in years, with short and thin gray hair, full face, plentifully seamed and wrinkled, head curiously inclined to the left shoulder, a low-crowned, broad-brimmed silk hat, an immense white cravat like a poultice thrusting his old-fashioned collar up to his ears, dressed in black throughout, with a swallow-tail coat not of the newest style."

This was President James Buchanan, come to escort Abraham Lincoln, President-elect, to the capitol, where he was to take the oath of office.

Mr Buchanan typified the end of a political era, as Lincoln typified the beginning of a new one.

The aged Pennsylvanian, whose chief hope for months had been to end his administration in peace, and the tall, vigorous man of 52 from the Illinois prairies came out of the hotel arm in arm and in the presence of a gaping crowd, held back by a line of militia, entered the barouche, and were driven up the avenue toward the capitol.

The day was hot, with the brilliant, genial sunshine that spring sometimes brings thus early in that latitude. There was no demonstration as the carriage and its escort—described as "a rather disorderly and certainly not very imposing procession"—proceeded toward the capitol.

Yet there were many dark faces in the crowd on either side of the way, and on the roofs of various houses in commanding positions were concealed squads of sharp-shooters, stationed by Gen Scott, with explicit orders to guide them in case of disturbances in the street.

There had been grave apprehensions for the safety of Lincoln in this ride, for threats had been made that he should never be inaugurated, and Gen Scott, as commander of the army, had employed all the men he could secure from the army and militia to guard the line of march and the capitol.

### Arrival at Capitol.

Yet nothing untoward occurred, and shortly after 1 o'clock Abraham Lincoln and James Buchanan arrived before the capitol, then an unfinished building, with a portion of its front obscured by a litter of stages, derricks and building material.

The official party proceeded to the senate chamber, which was crowded with dignitaries, including the entire diplomatic corps, to witness the ceremony of swearing in the Vice President-elect, Hannibal Hamlin of Maine.

This ceremony performed, Mr Lincoln, accompanied still by President Buchanan, and followed by Mrs Lincoln and his three sons, Chief Justice Taney of the supreme court, who was to administer the oath, and the clerk of the senate bearing a bible, proceeded to the east front of the capitol, where a platform had been erected over the steps, with a sort of open wooden shed on it.

In this little structure an epochal event in American history now took place. The greatest American of his time here took up the heaviest responsibilities that had ever fallen on the shoulders of a President. Here he was to enunciate the lofty principles that were to enable him to guide the nation through its severest trials.

### Actors in the Scene.

The chief features of the scene have become a familiar part of American history. Pictures have preserved the appearance of the platform, of the unfinished capitol dome above with a derrick towering near, of the crowd on the level below and of the tall, gaunt figure of Lincoln delivering his inaugural address.

Writers have left an intimate description of the appearance of the persons on the platform. They were actors calculated to give a dramatic value to the scene, if any were needed beyond that imparted by the presence of the plain, strong man from the far interior of the country, called hither to save the union.

Near the President sat Stephen A. Douglas, the "little giant" of the democracy, who had been one of Lincoln's opponents in the election as a candidate of the northern democrats for the presidency. He had come to greet the incoming President in order to show the country that in spite of his political views he was for the union. Probably no act of his political life was to do more to secure Douglas an honorable place in history.

Chief Justice Taney had also taken a leading part in the prelude to the great drama now opening. He was the author of the opinion delivered by the supreme court in the celebrated Dred Scott case, declaring that property in slaves could not be interfered with by congress in the territories; an opinion that had done more than any other single cause to bring about the crisis the country was now facing. Judge Taney was 81, but he still held the views that had allied him in

this decision with the slave-holding interest.

### Lincoln's Hat and Cane.

There were but few cheers when the official party arrived on the platform. Enemies of Lincoln and the north were plentiful in the crowd. The friends of the President did not wish to irritate them by cheering. Every loyal nerve was tense, and every loyal heart hoped there would be no outbreak—no tragedy.

As Lincoln came forward observers close to him saw that he had made a departure from his usual easy style of dress. He wore a new suit, his usual frock coat having given place to a dress coat. His waistcoat was of black satin, his trousers black, his hat a black beaver, and he carried a large ebony cane with a gold head.

On arriving at his place Mr Lincoln looked about for a place for his hat, and finding none was about to deposit it on the floor when Mr Douglas came to the rescue of his old rival, and took the hat, which he continued to hold. Lincoln then thrust his cane into a corner of the railing, and was ready to speak.

The honor of introducing Lincoln fell to Edward D. Baker of Oregon, a veteran of the Mexican war, then in the senate, who was destined to die in battle for the union within eight months.

### **"The Union Is Unbroken."**

Lincoln had not spoken long when his hearers became conscious that they were listening to a new note in official utterances. No longer "was there any tone of compromise with secession."

Lincoln declared solemnly:

I consider that in view of the constitution and the laws, the union is unbroken, and to the extent of my ability I shall take care, as the constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the union be faithfully executed in all the states. Doing this I deem to be only a simple duty on my part; and I shall perform it, so far as practicable, unless my rightful masters, the American people, shall withhold the requisite means, or, in some authoritative manner direct the contrary.

### ***His Words to the South.***

The calm, judicial tone of the address, and the clear, resonant voice of the speaker, trained in the west by long practice in out-of-door oratory, made a profound impression.

There could be no doubt that he would do his utmost to preserve the union, while his attitude toward the south was unequivocally enunciated in these words:

In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the government, while I shall have the most solemn one to preserve, protect and defend it.

As the concluding words of the celebrated peroration of the speech died away there was a hearty cheer from the crowd. Then the clerk of the senate stepped forward and opened the Bible, and the aged Justice Taney, visibly affected, began to repeat the oath, which Lincoln, with his hand on the open book, solemnly pronounced after him:

I, Abraham Lincoln, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the United States.

Then a battery on the brow of Capitol hill thundered a salute, and James Buchanan, private citizen, and President Lincoln returned to their carriage and were driven to the White House.

Here the venerable Buchanan, heartily glad to be safely out of office, shook President Lincoln by the hand on the threshold, wished him personal happiness and a peaceful term.

**Lincoln's cabinet**—The men who were to take up with the Illinois lawyer the conduct of a mighty war; in tomorrow's *Globe*.

## *JOY AT LINCOLN INAUGURAL.*

### **President Kissed Thirty-four Young Women Representing States.**

Lebert St. Clair, in the Cleveland Plain Dealer, discussing the forthcoming inauguration of Senator Harding, simple though it will be, is the favorite cloakroom pastime in congress, which occasionally spreads to the floor. All of the past inaugurations are being thoroughly threshed out and several new stories about them unearthed.

In a recent discussion Senator Knox of Pennsylvania, who is chairman of the congressional committee in charge of the ceremonies, brought out a new fact in connection with the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln. At least it was a fact new to the senators who heard him.

The Pennsylvania senator was defending the proposal to appropriate \$100,000 for the Harding ceremonies at the Capitol and maintained stoutly that nothing was intended which could be considered at all extravagant or unusual.

"Why," he said, "I read from a description of the ceremony of 1861 that after Mr. Lincoln had delivered his inaugural address and Chief Justice Taney had administered the oath, Mr. Lincoln turned and kissed the thirty-four young ladies representing the thirty-four states. We provided nothing of that kind for Mr. Harding."

Just about this time Senator Reed of Missouri got into the field and talked about Jeffersonian simplicity and how it had been overworked. He branched into other subjects but came back to inaugural ceremonies long enough to add:

"Before I leave the floor I want to exonerate President Lincoln from the charge that Lincoln was extravagant when he kissed the thirty-four young ladies representing thirty-four states."

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1921

# Buffalo Woman Attended One of Gloomiest Inaugural Balls

Ticking of Self-Rocking Cradle in Pittsburgh Hotel Secured Invitation for Late Mrs. Finney.

There was once a time when the inaugural ball of a president of the United States was looked upon as the most brilliant affair of a social season. From all official circles of the government and from foreign powers there gathered men and women to felicitate the new president on his assumption of the duties of office.

It was an event long anticipated by those close to Washington, and an affair that occupied, for many days afterward, the thoughts of those who attended. Only in later years has the ball come to be disregarded and even come to be frowned upon.

In 1861, Lincoln, the new president, was given an inaugural ball and this, despite the fact that the nation was cringing before the storm of civil war. It was not grand, but gloomy and peculiar. It was given in a commodious and breezy shanty of pine boards and scantling, built for the purpose. The attendance was comparatively small. When the band played "Hail to the Chief," not more than a thousand people were on the floor.

#### Mrs. Finney's Invitation.

Among that thousand was a woman, who, in her later life, came to live in Buffalo and passed away here some years ago. Her name was Mrs. Robert Finney of Pittsburgh. The invitation she received to Lincoln's ball is in the possession of her family and is printed in today's Evening News.

Mrs. Finney, when she received the invitation, had been a friend of Lincoln's for slightly more than a year, and it all came about in a peculiar fashion. The candidate, in the course of his campaign, shortly after his brilliant debates with Douglass, came to Pittsburgh.

"The camp rang with cheers for President Lincoln after the dismissal of the parade, and Scott returned to his company to do good service as a soldier and to give his life seven months later while gallantly charging the rebel rifle pits at Lee's Mill."

Mr. Ferriter declared that, in the face of this historical and official record, Dr. Barton's book had better be revised to accord with the facts. Instead of being left to say that there is "not documentary evidence" to sustain the Scott story.

"I was staying at the Monongahela house at that time," Mrs. Finney once told her friends. "That was probably the best hotel in the city, and as I had the most desirable suite of rooms, I was asked if I would be willing to give them up to Mr. Lincoln. I naturally was very glad to do so and accordingly moved with all my belongings to rooms directly above.

#### Rain Dampens Enthusiasm.

"Mr. Lincoln arrived. A large crowd turned out to greet him, but

the general enthusiasm was somewhat overwhelmed by a driving rain, which visited the city that day. I can see him now as he entered the door of the hotel, followed by a gathering of the curious. His clothes were soaked by the rain, and I distinctly recall how he shook them and beat the water from the cuffs of his trousers with his large hands. There was a roaring blaze in the fireplace, and there he sat warming his hands and face and drying his clothes.

"He later went to his rooms, but it wasn't long before I heard a knock on my door, and there stood Mr. Lincoln and his host, Mr. John Crosson, proprietor of the hotel. I learned why they had come. It seems they had been in the chosen suite but a few minutes when they heard a constant and noisy 'tick-tock,

'tick-tock' from the rooms above that for all the world sounded like the regular beat from an enormous clock.

"Mr. Lincoln was interested. His host, already acquainted with the source of all this mysterious noise, brought him to my rooms to show the future President what it was all about. And it was this: I owned a cradle that you don't see any more these days. You wound it up and put the baby in it and off the cradle would go slowly rocking the little fellow into the land of nod. It was certainly a great time-saver. True, it was a little noisy, but when the noise attracts the President of the United States, the noisier the better."

The friendship, brought about by this peculiar incident ripened, and when the inaugural ball was announced, Mrs. Finney and her husband were among those invited. It wasn't one of the best inaugural balls that was ever given. It was a strangely cold and unsociable affair. It was sad, gloomy and disheartening. It was under a cloud through which no star was visible.

# LINCOLN LORE

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## LINCOLN LORE

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Dr. Louis A. Warren - - - Editor

### THE FIRST INAUGURAL

Tomorrow, March 4, marks the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's first inaugural address. While the remarks of the President on this occasion are of supreme importance and their place among the outstanding utterances of mankind securely established, the atmosphere in which this address was delivered and the personnel of the group in the immediate background of the speaker are also of interest. Some excerpts have been gathered for this number of *Lincoln Lore* which may help to visualize the setting for this memorable occasion.

#### *A Warm March Day*

"But to return to the inauguration of Lincoln . . . I have never seen an inauguration day so warm as the one turned out to be, although a little cloudy in early morning. I started out with a party of friends to go to the Capitol and when we had gone a little way I went back with their wraps to the hotel and brought sun shades instead. A lot of the boys from the Virginia Military Institute, to make a show of the Spring weather we were having, came here in white trousers and straw hats, but I have always had an idea that some of them must have taken back home with them about what we now call the grippe . . . no matter how warm the middle of the day on the avenue may be in March, the weather is very treacherous after the sun goes down. Lincoln's inaugural address was short but impressive and as I heard his closing paragraph I concluded that we had elected a President who was a great, strong man. The parade that followed was short and was more like a trades-procession as I remember it, than a military display. There was a carriage with thirty-four little girls representing the States of the Union, and several features of symbolic interest."

Correspondent "Lincoln," Boston Evening Transcript, February 26, 1897.

#### *Lincoln's Restlessness*

"When he (Lincoln) came forward it was evident to those who knew him that he had been elaborately "fixed up" for the occasion by someone with more zeal than reason. He was arrayed in a full suit of regulation black including

a dress coat, an article he had probably never worn before in his life; a brand new silk hat, and a ponderous gold-headed cane completed a costume in which the owner looked, and was, exceedingly uncomfortable and awkward. After standing hesitantly a moment, his cane in one hand and hat in the other, he got rid of the former by thrusting it up in the angle of the railing, but the disposition of the hat evidently puzzled him. There was no room on the small table and he did not like to put it on the floor, so there he stood in the concentrated gaze of assembled thousands clutching the glossy beaver and looking around in painful embarrassment. Douglas occupied a seat not directly behind Mr. Lincoln but several seats in the rear on the end of the bench at the right of the entrance on the platform. He apprehended the situation of his old friend and voluntarily rising, gracefully took the hat and held it until the conclusion of the address. He listened with the closest attention to the address and frequently nodded his head in approbation of the sentiment expressed. That historic document, afterwards shown to a representative of The Republican, was written throughout by Mr. Lincoln's own pen on medium sized paper. The manuscript resembled an ordinary school copy book."

Illinois Journal, October 9, 1879, reprinted from St. Louis Republican.

#### *Buchanan, Taney and Lincoln*

"The seats upon the platform were filled by those to whom they had been assigned and a cheer from fifty thousand lusty throats went up as a trio of mental, moral, and physical worth approached the temporary shelter in the immediate center. Venerable indeed was the Chief Justice, Robert E. Taney. What thoughts must have passed through his well-disciplined mind! How, with the eye of a historian, must have run back more than sixty years to the date of his first oath of office as Chief Justice of the United States a fit successor to the great Marshall, then dead. How, as looking during a few moments delay from his elevation upon the vast crowd before him in which thousands of dusty faces, free and enslaved as well, appeared, must have risen before him his famous Dred Scott decision in which he declared negroes as beings of an "inferior order" altogether unfit to associate with the white race through any social or political relations and so far inferior that they had "no right which the white man was bound to respect." And then, as looking at the courtly form and personal dignity of Buchanan on his left and the earnest solemnity stamped on the face of the tall incomer upon his right, must have arisen before him the long line of men to whom he had administered the oath now about

to be taken by Abraham Lincoln. It was indeed a significant moment to Robert E. Taney and he indeed was a fit complement to the two distinguished factors in affairs with whom he appeared, part and parcel of an illustrious trio. The oath being administered, President Lincoln stepped to the front . . . great interest was naturally felt in Lincoln's inaugural address. Horace Greeley says of Lincoln—"His faith in reason as a moral force was so implicit that he did not cherish a doubt but his inaugural address, whereon he had put so much thought and labor would, when read throughout the South, dissolve the Confederacy as the frost is dissolved by a vernal sun. I sat just behind him as he read it on a bright, warm, still, March day, expecting to hear the delivery arrested by the crack of a rifle aimed at his heart, but it pleased God to postpone the deed. Although there was forty times the opportunity to shoot him in 1861 that there was in 1865 and at least forty times as many intent on killing or having him killed.' There was no bullet fired. Lincoln's address, although read, produced profound impression. It was heard with perfect distinctness by at least ten thousand, if not fifteen thousand of the people assembled."

Joseph Howard, Jr., in Boston Globe, July 1, 1888.

#### *The Capitol*

"The day for inauguration came. Never before had there been so many people in Washington. Soldiers were stationed in groups along Pennsylvania Avenue and on the roofs of buildings. Cavalrymen rode beside the carriage that bore President Buchanan and Mr. Lincoln from Willet Hotel to the Capitol. Not far away artillerymen were sitting on their caissons or on their horses ready to move in an instant should General Scott give the signal. But the conspirators who had plotted the death of Mr. Lincoln did not dare attempt his assassination. Thousands had gathered to witness the inauguration. The Capitol was unfinished. Above the throng rose the huge derrick by which the marble and iron for the construction of the dome were lifted . . . Mr. Lincoln lays his right hand upon the open Bible, a hush falls upon the vast multitude as he repeats after Chief Justice Taney the words—"I, Abraham Lincoln, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Charles C. Coffin, press correspondent, in his book on Abraham Lincoln, page 236.

# LINCOLN LORE

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FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

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## PRESIDENTS LIVING WHEN LINCOLN WAS INAUGURATED

Six Presidents of the United States were living in 1861 when the Union was on the verge of collapse. They were: The Eighth President, Van Buren, age 79; the Tenth President, Tyler, age 71; the Thirteenth President, Fillmore, age 61; the Fourteenth President, Pierce, age 57; the Fifteenth President, Buchanan, age 70; and the Sixteenth President, Lincoln, age 52.

It was shortly after Lincoln's inauguration that the country came near having a President's Club. Franklin Pierce wrote to the other former presidents in March, 1861, suggesting that "they get together in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, to try and devise means to avert Civil War." It was in this hall that Abraham Lincoln, a few days previous to this special call by Pierce, had spoken these words:

"I have often inquired of myself what great principle or idea it was that kept this Confederacy so long together. It was not the mere matter of separation of the colonies from the motherland, but that sentiment in the Declaration of Independence which gave liberty not alone to the people of this country, but hope to all the world, for all future time. It was that which gave promise that in due time the weights would be lifted from the shoulders of all men, and that all should have an equal chance. This is the sentiment embodied in the Declaration of Independence. Now, my friends, can this country be saved on that basis? If it can, I will consider myself one of the happiest men in the world if I can help to save it. If it cannot be saved upon that principle, it will be truly awful. But if this country cannot be saved without giving up that principle, I was about to say I would rather be assassinated on this spot than surrender it. Now, in my view of the present aspect of affairs, there is no need of such a course; and I may say in advance that there will be no bloodshed unless it is forced upon the government. The government will not use force, unless force is used against it."

President Pierce's proposal for a meeting of the past presidents evidently failed to materialize and an opportunity to organize America's first President's Club went by default. It would have been a short-lived club at the best, as five of the six men eligible for membership were dead within the next eight years. It will be observed that Lincoln was the youngest of the group which may have suggested to the older heads that the youngster might appreciate some fatherly advice.

### THE PRESIDENTS

1782—Martin Van Buren—1862  
Eighth President  
Senator in New York Legislature, 1813-1820.

Attorney General, State of New York, 1815-1819.

Democratic United States Senator, 1821-1828.

Governor of New York, 1828-1829.

Secretary of State in Jackson's Cabinet, 1829-1831.

Democratic Vice President of United States, 1832-1836.

Democratic President of United States, 1837-1841.

1790—John Tyler—1862

Tenth President  
Democratic United States Congressman, 1817-1821.

Governor of Virginia, 1825-1827.

Democratic United States Senator, 1827-1836.

Whig Vice President of United States, 1841.

Whig President of United States, 1841-1845.

Elected to Confederate Congress, 1861.

1800—Millard Fillmore—1874

Thirteenth President  
Representative in New York Legislature, 1829-1831.

Whig United States Congressman, 1833-1835, 1837-1843.

Whig Vice President of United States, 1849.

Whig President of United States, 1850-1853.

1804—Franklin Pierce—1869

Fourteenth President  
Representative in New Hampshire Legislature, 1829-1833.

Democratic United States Senator, 1837-1842.

Democratic President of United States, 1853-1857.

1791—James Buchanan—1868

Fifteenth President  
Representative in Pennsylvania Legislature, 1814-1815.

Federalist United States Congressman, 1821-1831.

Minister to Russia, 1832-1834.

Democratic United States Senator, 1834-1845.

Secretary of State in Polk's Cabinet, 1845-1849.

Minister to Great Britain, 1853-1856.

Democratic President of United States, 1857-1861.

1809—Abraham Lincoln—1865

Sixteenth President  
Representative in Illinois Legislature, 1834-1842.

Whig United States Congressman, 1847-1848.

Republican President of United States, 1861-1865.

Union President of United States, 1865.

This group of six presidents who would save the Union from civil strife were evenly divided as far as political affiliations were concerned; three were Democrats and three had originally been associated with the Whigs. If the incumbent, Lincoln, had not been invited to the contemplated conference, it would have been three Democrats over against two Whigs. It is interesting to note to what extent these presidents participated in the affairs of the government during the trying times through which the country was then passing.

Van Buren lived but a short time after the administration of Lincoln was well under way. He died on July 24, 1862. He had been the anti-slavery candidate for the President in 1848, running on an anti-slavery platform, but was defeated.

John Tyler lived but ten months after Lincoln was inaugurated, but in that brief period he had given unmistakable evidence as to his point of view. He was a delegate to the peace convention in 1861; a delegate to the Confederate Provisional Congress in 1861; and was elected to the Confederate Congress the same year, but died January 24, 1862, before the assembling of the congress at Richmond.

When Lincoln was enroute to Washington for the inaugural in 1861, Fillmore entertained him in his home at Buffalo, and on Sunday, February 17, they attended church together. Although Fillmore was sixty-one years of age when the war began, he commanded a corps of home guards during the war.

Franklin Pierce, in his inaugural address on March 4, 1853, denounced slavery agitation and maintained the constitutionality of slavery. He selected Jefferson Davis as Secretary of War in his cabinet, and Davis served for four years. James Buchanan was made Minister to Great Britain during his administration. Pierce held that "the institution of slavery was embedded in and guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, and that therefore it was the duty of the National Government to protect it. In the 1860 election he favored Breckinridge over Douglas. On April 21, 1865, he addressed a mass meeting at Concord, New Hampshire, and urged the people to sustain the Government against the Confederacy.

After his successor, Abraham Lincoln, was inaugurated, Buchanan returned to his home at Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He took little active part in national affairs, but supported as a private citizen the maintenance of the war for the preservation of the Union.



EDWARD S. DELAPLAINE  
FREDERICK, MARYLAND

July 1, 1939.

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director,  
Lincoln National Life Foundation,  
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Doctor Warren:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of June 28, in reference to the inaugural ceremony of 1861.

In the home of Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney, in Frederick, Maryland, we have an oil painting depicting Chief Justice Taney administering the Presidential oath to Abraham Lincoln. I am herewith enclosing a photograph of this oil painting, with my compliments.

Just a few weeks ago I sent a similar photograph to the Director of the Lincoln Musuem at Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tennessee.

You might be interested to know that I spent many months some years ago in a study of the question of whether President Lincoln raised his hand or placed his hand upon the Bible. By a strange coincidence I happened to see the very Bible upon which he placed his hand. It is rather a small volume, with a dark purple or reddish brown cover.

In recent years the Presidents have raised one hand or the other, but I think the placing of the right hand on the Bible is correct. Usually a witness in Court will raise his right hand and no Bible is used in our Court here, but when a man enters office he places his hand upon the Bible.

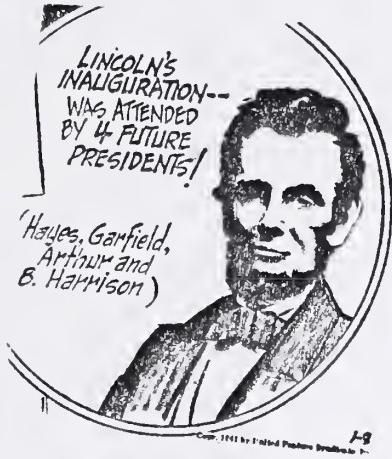
About the time I was studying the question, or soon thereafter, I found an old wood cut showing the inaugural scene and this coincided with my version.

I trust that this information may be of some help to you.

Yours very sincerely,

*Edward S. Delaine*  
Judge of the Court  
of Appeals of Maryland

President of the Roger  
Brooke Taney Home, Inc.



# Making Conversation

BY J. EMIL SMITH

Feb. 1941

A most interesting article, dealing with inaugural ceremonies of presidents down through the years, was inserted in the Congressional Record the other day at the request of United States Senator Scott W. Lucas.

Written by the secretary of the senate, the article highlights many colorful incidents connected with the inauguration of presidents. Speaking of the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln, the article tells of some of the sidelights of both his first and second inauguration. Among these it recites:

Except for the gradual increase in the size of the military escort, subsequent inaugurations, down to the first inauguration of President Lincoln, were without special distinction in their formalities.

As Lincoln stepped on the platform in front of the east portico of the Capitol March 4, 1861, there was sketched behind him a significant and dramatic background.

The great dome of the Capitol, which was being constructed in spite of incredible difficulties, was in mid-progress, with a network of steel ropes and derricks towering high above the uncompleted structure.

In the midst of the crowd which faced the Capitol stood the bronze Goddess of Freedom, not yet raised to her pinnacle upon the dome of the Capitol. It was a symbolic setting.

Significant also was an incident that occurred as Abraham Lincoln arose to deliver his inaugural address. He looked about for some likely repository for his high silk hat. Senator Douglas, of Illinois, who sat close by, stepped forward to receive it—the same Stephen A. Douglas who had defeated Lincoln in the famous senatorial race some years before.

Douglas held President Lincoln's hat during the delivery of his entire address. Thus did an erstwhile opponent put aside any lingering personal prejudice which may have existed to serve humbly the representative of a great and noble office.



We are told in the Inaugural Tales, by Elizabeth Ford, that Abraham Lincoln was seldom at a loss for a story, and that he told this one on himself about his first inauguration in 1861.

On his way to Washington with his son, Robert Lincoln, he stopped in Harrisburg, Pa. Before leaving Springfield he had written his inaugural message, and the manuscript, after being carefully edited, had been set in type by his friend the local printer. There were four copies, all intrusted to Robert, who carried them in a grip sack.

"When we reached Harrisburg," said Lincoln, "and had washed up, I asked Robert where the message was, and was taken aback by his confession that he had let a waiter take the grip sack. My heart went up into my mouth, and I started down the stairs, where I was told that if a waiter had taken the article I should probably find it in the baggage room.

"Hastening there, I saw an immense pile of grip sacks and other baggage and thought that I had discovered mine. The key fitted, but on opening it there was nothing inside but a few paper collars and flask of whisky. Tumbling the baggage right and left, in a few minutes I spied my lost treasure and in it the important document."

At Lincoln's second inauguration the dome of the Capitol had been completed.

Two Methodist ministers exchanged a bit of gay repartee the other evening at the dinner meeting of the Rotary club.

Rev. A. Ray Grummon, pastor of the First Methodist church, had the pleasant assignment of introducing the speaker of the evening, Rev. Ray Honeywell, pastor of the Vermont Street Methodist church of Quincy.

"I got my start in the ministry," laughingly said Reverend Grummon, "by pumping the organ at the church of which Reverend Honeywell is pastor. In other words, I furnished the wind."

He then went on to say that while Reverend Honeywell was a Methodist he hoped the Rotarians wouldn't hold it against him. "And, then, too," he said, "he is a Kiwanian but he can't help that."

Reverend Honeywell evened the score, saying: "I notice Reverend Grummon hasn't gotten over the habits he formed when pumping the organ. He has used so much wind in introducing me that he forgot to announce the subject of my talk."

# LINCOLN LORE

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Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor

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March 17, 1941

## BROADCASTING LINCOLN'S FIRST INAUGURAL

Eighty years ago this month Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated President of the United States. There were no radio announcers to give an account of this epochal ceremony. When Franklin D. Roosevelt was recently inaugurated for his third term, there were some very extravagant statements made over the air in an attempt to create the idea in the minds of the listeners that all other inaugurations fell into discard compared with the setting at Washington on January 20, 1941. We wonder.

Without any attempt to overemphasize some of the episodes associated with Abraham Lincoln's First Inaugural, a radio announcer could have portrayed the scene on March 4, 1861, something like this:

Ladies and gentlemen of the radio audience, this is Inauguration Day in the national capital and a very beautiful day it is. We are going to give you a picture of that part of the proceedings which includes the inaugural procession and the inaugural ceremonies. Microphones have been installed here at the Willard Hotel where the President-elect, Mr. Lincoln, will join President Buchanan, and on the newly erected stands in front of the Capitol Building where the oath will be administered.

Never before in the history of the country have so many people crowded into this city as are present today to witness the inaugural ceremonies. Whether or not the rumors that the President-elect will be assassinated before he can be inaugurated have any foundation, it is difficult to learn, but there is great resentment toward him.

Every precaution is being taken to guard Mr. Lincoln. The entire military force of the District of Columbia under the direction of General Scott is available. Scores of heavily armed men, many from Mr. Lincoln's home state of Illinois, are in the city to see that the proceedings shall not be interrupted by violence. The fact that several states have already seceded from the Union creates a tension here that has never before been felt in this capital city.

Regular troops are stationed at intervals along Pennsylvania Avenue, sharpshooters are in strategic positions on the tops of the taller buildings along the route, and mounted officers stationed at every corner to report to General Scott the progress of the procession.

Our microphone is so placed here at the Willard Hotel that we can get a full view of the entire route of the procession until the column approaches the Capitol, and we will attempt to describe its progress. The carriage bringing President Buchanan from the White House is now drawing up in front of the hotel, and we may expect Mr. Lincoln to step out of the entrance at any moment. There is a great throng about the hotel here to get the first glimpse of the President-elect, and it is with some difficulty that the path to the carriage is kept open. Some have predicted that if the life of Mr. Lincoln is threatened, it will be here, and the moment he appears in the open may be the most intense moment of the entire ceremonies.

The milling of the crowd about the entrance indicates that Mr. Lincoln is approaching and here he is, Abraham Lincoln of Illinois, the first President to be born west of the Allegheny Mountains. No one has any difficulty in picking him out of the mass of people as he stands above them all. When he stops bowing and puts on his top-hat, his six foot four inch figure will be increased about a foot. He has reached the carriage and has taken his seat beside President Buchanan. Senator Edward Baker and Senator James Alfred Pearce have also entered the barouche and taken seats opposite the President and President-elect.

A guard of honor of the regular cavalry surrounds the carriage. Mounted marshals four files deep give further security to the occupants of the carriage. Behind the carriage march regiments of regulars and marines fully armed. Falling in behind the armed militia are the veterans of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Mexican War. Next in line we observe members of the Peace Congress and then follow delegations from the various states, about a thousand of them.

A group of young ladies occupy a float drawn by four white horses. They represent the various states of the Union. We observe some of them are quarreling. A company of Wide-Awakes serves as an escort. Here is a strange sight for Washington to gaze on, a division of colored volunteers, the first colored men ever to march as a unit in a military procession.

The front of the procession has moved up Pennsylvania Avenue without any disturbing incident thus far, and we will now turn you over to our announcer at the Capitol who will give you an account of the proceedings in the Inauguration proper.

The location of our microphones here at the Capitol allows us to get a good view of all that is to take place on this platform erected in front of the eastern portico. General Scott has drawn up his two batteries so that they control the plateau which extends before the east front of the Capitol. Several companies of soldiers are just in front of the platform from which Mr. Lincoln will speak.

President Buchanan, President-elect Lincoln, and the nation's leading officials and diplomats are now taking their positions on the platform. Mrs. Lincoln and several ladies are also observed in the group. An old friend of Mr. Lincoln, Senator Edward Baker from Oregon, is about to introduce Mr. Lincoln.

Mr. Lincoln has just stepped forward, placed the large cane he carries against a railing, and he now seems to be trying to find some place to put his top-hat. Senator Douglas is stepping forward and apparently is going to hold Mr. Lincoln's hat for him. This is a fine gesture on the part of Douglas who debated with Mr. Lincoln in 1858. Mr. Lincoln is putting on some spectacles and is about to read his message. Now back to the speakers' microphone for the Inaugural Address.

"Fellow-citizens of the United States: In compliance with a custom as old as the government itself, I appear before you to address you briefly, and to take in your presence the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States to be taken by the President 'before he enters on the execution of his office'....

"I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

You have just heard the new President-elect of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, deliver his Inaugural Address. He will now take the oath of office administered by Chief Justice Taney. The aged Chief Justice is now stepping forward and the Clerk of the Senate is holding the Bible on which Mr. Lincoln has placed one hand. He has now raised his other hand to take the oath.

Abraham Lincoln is now declared the Sixteenth President of the United States.

# LINCOLN LORE

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Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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## LINCOLN'S FIRST INAUGURAL — MISCELLANY

The inauguration of a President of the United States occurring but once in every four years makes the event an occasion of great significance. The inauguration of 1953 would seem to create a proper environment to review some of the incidents which took place during the first inauguration of Abraham Lincoln in 1861. *Lincoln Lore* through the years has touched upon many phases of the ceremonies including several monographs on the address itself. For this issue of the bulletin it would seem quite appropriate to collect from the daily press and other contemporary sources of that day a miscellany of unrelated episodes which have enough of the human interest element about them to warrant their reprinting.

### Sleeping in the Capital

"Over twenty-thousand strangers were in the city, many of whom slept the night previous to inauguration day in the Capital and in the streets—it being absolutely impossible to find rooms or beds anywhere."

### Mrs. Lincoln at Willard's Hotel

"Mrs. Lincoln, who is fast winning the hearts of all who call upon her, on account of her exceedingly pleasant and sociable nature, which is blended with a grace and dignity of nature seldom combined, bears the fatigue of her new position with becoming patience! Mrs. Lincoln and Mrs. Hamlin are attended by several of their personal friends."

### Douglas Holds Lincoln's Hat

"A Cincinnati paper says that at the inauguration, Mr. Lincoln's hat being in danger, Mr. Douglas said 'permit me, sir,' and gallantly took the vexatious article and held it during the entire reading of the inaugural! He must have reflected pretty seriously during that half hour, that instead of delivering an inaugural address from that portico, he was holding the hat of the man who was doing it."

### Three Photographers

"A small camera was directly in front of Mr. Lincoln, another at a distance of a hundred yards, and a third of huge dimensions on his right, raised on a platform built specially for the purpose."

### Releasing the Address to the Press

"The inaugural will not be delivered to the press until Mr. Lincoln begins to read it, when, by his own direction, a copy prepared for that purpose will be delivered to the agent of the Associated Press for immediate transmission over the wires, and another copy will be submitted to the Washington papers."

### Steel Bowed Spectacles

"Senator Baker of Oregon introduced Mr. Lincoln to the assembly. . . . He lays down his manuscript, clasps his hands in his pockets and pulls out a pair of steel bowed spectacles . . . a lusty hawkeyed fellow cries out, 'Take off them spectacles, we want to see your eyes'."

### Lincoln's Delivery

"The inaugural was delivered in a clear and emphatic voice, which never faltered throughout, and reached nearly to the outskirts of the vast throng. It was frequently interrupted with applause but most vehemently at the point where he announced his inflexible purpose to execute the laws and discharge his whole constitutional duty."

### But One Gesture

"Lincoln spoke with deep earnestness and fervor. His diction was forceful and strong and revealed to me the fact that he was a man of careful and deep research. . . . He had his manuscript before him but seemed to know his remarks by heart. He made only one gesture throughout his oration, the rest of the time his arms hanging loosely at his side. When he uttered the sentence, 'No state has the right to secede' he brought his clenched fist down with a resounding thump on the table."

### Taney's Eighth Presidential Oath Administered

"The inauguration of today makes the eighth ceremony of the kind at which Judge Taney has officiated, having administered the oath of office successively to Presidents Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, Buchanan and Lincoln."

### Lincoln Not Frightened

"Mr. Lincoln was asked whether he felt at all frightened while delivering his inaugural address, the threats of assassination having been so numerous. He replied that he had no such sensation, and that he had often experienced much greater fear in addressing a dozen Western men on the subject of temperance."

### Kissing Little Girls

"On entering the White House he was conducted to the Blue room, when, after an introduction to the marshals, aids, and officials, the public were admitted. Thirty-two little girls, with wreaths about their heads, and bearing little blue flags, were introduced individually, and audibly kissed by the President. The hair of one catching in the President's waistcoat button, caused much merriment and some difficulty to disentangle."

### Attending the Inaugural Ball

"President Lincoln entered, leaning upon the arms of Vice President Hamlin and Senator Anthony of Rhode Island. Immediately behind them, to the intense astonishment of all, came Mrs. Lincoln leaning on the arm of Senator Douglas, more popularly known as the Little Giant . . . with her came Miss Edwards, her niece, a lovely creature."

### The Self-Possessed Mrs. Lincoln

"Mrs. Lincoln who followed in his (the President's) wake on the arm of the self-possessed Senator Douglas, is still more self-possessed, and has with more readiness adapted herself than her taller half, to the exalted station to which she has so strangely advanced, from the simple social life of the little inland Capital of Illinois. Women learn such things much faster than men. Mrs. Lincoln shows us, on her choice of blue on this occasion, as the color which fits her fair complexion best that she is no stranger to the beautiful science of the toilet."

### The Belle of the Inaugural Ball

"At 12½ o'clock the quadrille of the evening was danced—Douglas and Mrs. Lincoln, Hamlin and Miss Edwards, Mayor Berret and Mrs. Bergman, Mr. Harrard and Mrs. Baker composing the set. Miss Edwards, niece of Mrs. Lincoln, is acknowledged to be the belle of the evening. The ladies of the Presidential Party are dressed exquisitely, and in perfect taste."

See *Lincoln Lores* 47, 208, 308, 358, 359, 623.

## 1861—LINCOLN—1865.

THE administration of Abraham Lincoln, the most momentous in the history of the United States, was inaugurated with one of the most magnificent displays that has ever occurred on such an occasion.

The President-elect started from his home in Springfield, Ill., February 11, accompanied by his family and a large party of friends, among which were the present Secretary of State and John G. Nicolay. When the Presidential cortège reached Harrisburg information was received which led to a total change in the plans. On the evening of February 22, accompanied only by Col. E. V. Sumner, Mr. Lincoln entered a private car and went to Philadelphia, arriving in that city at midnight. Mr. Lincoln and Col. Sumner took the train from New York at Philadelphia, entering the sleeping car used by through passengers bound from that town, and arrived safely in Washington the next day.

President-elect Lincoln was driven to the Capitol to take the oath of office surrounded by cavalry, and along Pennsylvania avenue riflemen had been stationed on the roofs of the buildings with instructions to carefully watch the windows of the houses on the opposite side of the street, and to shoot down any one who should point a weapon toward the Presidential party. A small force of United States cavalry guarded the Avenue at the intersections of other streets, and to the north of the Capitol a big battery of flying artillery was stationed. Gen. Scott took station near the latter and kept a careful eye upon the succeeding ceremonies.

The procession was very large and imposing, one of the features of the civic division being a float representing the Constitution and the Union, the latter being represented by thirty-four little girls dressed in white, one for each of the States. After he had taken the oath of office President Lincoln kissed each one of these little girls.

For the last time Chief Justice Taney administered the oath to the new President after he had concluded a most powerful address.

There was an inaugural ball in the evening in a structure erected for the occasion in Judiciary Square, but President Lincoln did not attend.

Washington was an armed garrison on a hostile frontier when Abraham Lincoln again took the oath of office as President the second time. Soldiers in thousands thronged the streets, and the Avenue was ablaze with the national colors. President Lincoln was engaged at the Capitol, and did not ride in the procession.

Chief Justice Chase administered the oath of office, and the usual ceremonies in the Senate and on the east front of the Capitol took place. A feature of the parade from the Capitol to the White House was the presence therein of carriages in which rode Mrs. Lincoln, wife of the President, and others which bore his children. They followed the President's and preceded those of the diplomatic corps.

An inaugural ball was held Monday evening, March 6, in the model room of the Patent Office. The President and Mrs. Lincoln attended.

## INCIDENT OF LINCOLN'S FIRST INAUGURATION

Writer Tells of Warning Shouted  
From a Tree Top by a South-  
ern Sympathizer.

To the Editor of The Star:

I read from time to time articles in the newspapers, written by some one who witnessed the second inauguration of Abraham Lincoln. In the Sunday Star of February 6, I read an interesting article by Representative Isaac R. Sherwood telling of his presence in the crowd in front of the inaugural stand on that occasion.

The writer of this article was fourteen years old at that time, but was in the crowd with Gen. Sherwood, and I suppose rubbed elbows with him. I remember the crowd wasn't very great in those days at a presidential inauguration, and not to be compared to the crowds who attend such ceremonies nowadays. But, since I read Mr. Sherwood's article I feel proud to know and feel that I was in such distinguished company. But let me go back four years, to Abraham Lincoln's first inauguration. Where are all that crowd that stood in front of the inaugural stand waiting to see and hear President Lincoln? I wonder if there are many of them alive today. I do not think there are many of the older ones. I don't remember if there were any Washington boys there, but I know that I followed a band of music all over town that morning, which finally headed for the Capitol to take part in the ceremonies. I was ten years old at the time and I edged my way through the crowd and secured a good position up close, where I could hear and see all that might happen.

I knew pretty near every one in the crowd at the time, because in those days the population of Washington wasn't like what it is now. I wanted to see Mr. Lincoln and hear what he had to say before that band of music started back through the Avenue to the White House. I could walk beside the kettle drummers of that band as long as I could see. It was my greatest delight to watch him beating on that sheepskin. About 9:30 or thereabout, the people began to gather up close, and by the time my band got there the crowd began to show signs of excitement.

About this time an incident happened which I have never seen published or mentioned by any person in writing of Abraham Lincoln. Every one was standing on tip-toe and stretching his neck to see what was going on. Just as the President was expected to come out, and people on the Capitol steps began clearing away, there came a shout from the top of a large oak tree that stood about fifty feet or so from the stand. There was an old man in the top of the tree shouting. I cannot remember half of what he said, but it was a warning to the people of the north of the dreadful calamity that would follow the advent of the incoming administration. The old man spoke in favor of the south, which aroused the anger of the crowd, who commanded him to come down. The old man continued to shout his warnings when some of the Capitol police brought axes, which they got from the Columbia Fire Company, close by, and began chopping down the tree. When the old man realized what the crowd below was doing, he shouted that he would come down, which he did. Upon reaching the ground, after a ladder was set up against the tree, the old man was placed under arrest and placed in a room in the basement of the Capitol. I never heard what was done with him after that. It was supposed that the old fellow climbed the tree early in the morning with the assistance of a friend, and using a ladder, which was immediately carried away. Excitement was very great after that. Everybody was talking of war.

F. B. DURKIN.

### AN ANECDOTE OF LINCOLN

In each issue of the Week By Week from boyhood to his death. Save each copy. You will have anecdotes and illustrations that when put together will give you a very wonderful story of the life of the immortal savior of our country.

### THE INAUGURATION, MARCH 4, 1861

The procession set out from the Executive Mansion. President Buchanan there entered the carriage, which drawn by four horses, and preceded by the Marshal of the District, with his aids, on horseback moved out of the grounds to the avenue.

In front of Willard's Hotel a halt was made. Mr. Lincoln walked out through the crowd, which civilly opened a lane to permit him to pass, and entered the carriage.

On arrival at the Capitol building the party proceeded at once to the platform, when Senator Baker, of Oregon, spoke with his silvery voice the simple words, "Fellow citizens, I introduce to you Abraham Lincoln, the President-elect of the United States of America."

The Rail-splitter, as he was popularly known, held the vast multitude spellbound. The sentiments of the President-elect could not be mistaken: "The Union must be, should be, preserved." "I hold that in the contemplation of universal law, and of the Constitution, the Union of the United States is perpetual!" "I shall take care, as the Constitution expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the Union shall be faithfully executed in all the States!"

"The power confided to me will be used to hold, occupy, and possess the property and places belonging to the Government."

"I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection."

Lincoln controlled the audience at his will, and closing with these memorable words, he prepared to take the oath of office:

"The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battle-field and patriotic grave to every living heart and hearth-stone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be."

The Chief Justice of the United States now came forward. His venerable appearance gave, to what might have been a mere matter of form, great dignity and impressed significance,

He extended an open Bible, upon which Mr. Lincoln laid his left hand, and uplifting his right arm, he slowly repeated after the Chief Justice the words of the Constitution: "I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. So help me God!"

The ceremony ended. Then those upon the platform rose and remained standing as the President and his party passed back into the building.

The procession reformed in the same order as before, and returned, leaving at the White House as President of the United States the private citizen it had escorted from the hotel. Within an hour, another carriage, in which there was a single occupant, was driven down the avenue to the only railroad station then in Washington.

It contained Ex-President Buchanan, returning as a private citizen to his Pennsylvania home.

## LINCOLN TAKING THE OATH

A few suggestions gathered from contemporary reports which give in some detail the procedure in Lincoln's first taking of the oath.

### The Weather

"I have never seen an inauguration day so warm as this one turned out to be, although a little cloudy in early morning. I had started out with a party of friends to go to the Capitol and when we had gone a little way I went back with their wraps to the hotel and brought sun-shades instead."

One who attended the inauguration.

### Lincoln's Dress

"He was arrayed in a full suit of regulation black including a dress coat, a brand new silk hat, and a ponderous gold-headed cane. After standing hesitatingly a moment his cane in one hand his hat in the other, he got rid of the former by thrusting it up in the angle of the railing ---" (hat held by a friend)

### Taney's Age

Taney was eighty-four years of age when he presided at the ceremonies, and all eye-witnesses state he was very nervous. He passed away before the second inaugural.

### Position of President

The Justice of the Supreme Court preceded the President and Vice president to the platform, and it is likely that, when Taney came forward to take the oath, Lincoln would meet and face him which would put Taney on Lincoln's left.

### Holding the Bible

The Clerk of the Senate apparently held the Bible while the oath was being taken, and the letter from the president of the Taney Memorial gives a description of the book.

LINCOLN TAKING THE OATH

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Hand on Bible

There seems to be a division of opinion as to which hand Lincoln placed on the Bible, but it was customary to put the right hand on the book. Witnesses sworn in, in the picture "The Young Mr. Lincoln", placed their right hands on the Bible.

How Lincoln Looked

Lincoln had at least five sittings made by Brady the week of the inaugural, so we know how he appeared at the time.



